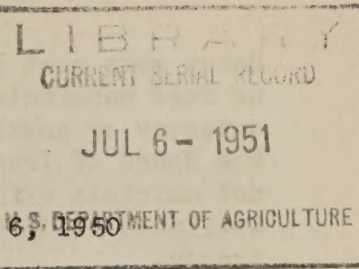


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
Information Branch
623 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois



FOR ADMINISTRATIVE USE

November 6, 1950

MIDWEST INFORMATION SUMMARY

TO: PMA Offices, Midwest Area

From: Vincent P. Freymann, Acting Chief, Information Branch, PMA,
Chicago, Illinois
V.P.F.

THIS WEEK'S SPOTLIGHT

Grain Market News

Harry Whiteside is a figure long familiar to those who trade in grain, feed, hay and related commodities around Chicago.

He is also well known to numerous PMA'ers as the Windy City leg of the Grain Branch's Market News Service since 1923.

This service, since 1916, has been getting the market facts on the grain and related items for producers, buyers, sellers and others.

Harry has market news counterparts in Minneapolis, Kansas City, Portland, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. At other big marketing centers, where the service does not have its own men, commercial correspondents supply information.

Several States cooperate with it in getting out the market news. As a result of the skillful work of the field office men and trade correspondents, under highly capable direction from Washington, the service generally is recognized as "tops" in the field of market reporting.

Whiteside's job is to get and distribute market information on wheat, corn, oats, barley, rye, soybeans, and feeds. The feed items consist of millfeeds, cornfeeds, oilseed meals, alfalfa meal, brewers dried grains, tankage, meat scraps and commercial feeds. Market reports on rice, hay, dry edible beans and hops are also released by the service from other offices.

Harry doesn't walk to the Board of Trade from his office at 1204 New Post Office Building just to pick up daily cash or futures market prices on certain of the above grains. Anyone can readily get these prices. He does get them, however, to meet the needs of Washington officials, other field offices and some of his telephone clientele. Moreover, he keeps a record of these prices for use in a market review which he prepares.

(more)

Harry gets most of his market news directly from original sources, such as feed manufacturers, wholesalers, jobbers and grain interests in one category or another. He personally interviews those who have offices in the Board of Trade Building and talks by 'phone to many others who do not maintain offices there. Much of the information he gets isn't available to farmers or other agricultural interests from any other agency.

In a Weekly Grain Market Review, prepared by Harry, you will find facts about the sources of supply, stocks in dealers' hands, market receipts, shipments and prices.

A Weekly Feed Market Review gives wholesale prices which may be compared with prices gathered by other field offices. This gives feeders a basis for knowing whether local feed quotations are in line with wholesale prices at the main producing and distributing centers. There is also information on production, the condition of the market, quantity of offerings, source of demand and indexes of wholesale feedstuff and feed grain prices.

Most of the grain and feed market news is released in weekly form from the various offices, since there isn't so much emphasis necessary on daily price changes and market movement as on perishable commodities.

The service helps producers, buyers and sellers in many ways. It is a great aid to farmers in planning to produce and market their crops... it helps livestock producers, dairymen and poultrymen to find the most advantageous sources of feed. Above all, it helps to get the commodities to the markets where they are needed most and to place farmers and dealers on an equal bargaining basis.

In addition to his responsibilities as head of the Chicago market news work, Whiteside is also responsible for the inspection of hay, dry edible beans and peas in the North Central States. And he also supervises seed verification in these states.

ON THE CALENDAR

Saturday, November 4-11	National 4-H Club Achievement Week
Tuesday, November 7	Springfield - Illinois Restaurant Assoc.
Wednesday, November 8	Madison - Grassland Improvement Meeting
November 8-9	Chicago - American Butter Institute
November 8-10	Kansas City, Mo. - School Food Service Assoc.
Thursday, November 9	Fargo - PMA meeting on crop insurance
November 9-10	Columbus - Ohio Animal Nutrition Conference
November 9-10	E. Lansing - Michigan Dairy M'grs annual conference
November 9-10	Washington-Preparatory meeting Administrator's fieldmen and 12 state committeemen to develop PMA conference agenda
November 9-10	Chicago - Midwest Food Conference
Friday, November 10	PMA party at St. Jude's Hall

(more)

ON THE CALENDAR (Cont'd)

Monday, November 13-14	Minneapolis - Regional Grain Meeting, PMA
13-14	Minneapolis - National Milk Producers Assoc.
13-16	Chicago - Illinois Agricultural Assoc.
13-16	Washington - Assoc. of Land Grant Colleges
Wednesday, November 15-16	Chicago - Regional Grain Meeting, PMA
Thursday, November 16-18	Chicago - Illinois Home Economics Association
Friday, November 17	W. Lafayette - Cattle Feeders' Day

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Hotel arrangements and other preparatory details for the National PMA conference in Chicago, December 11-14 required the presence in Chicago, Friday and Saturday of John Haughey, Acting Chief of the Office of Administrative Services, Washington.

COMPLIANCE AND INVESTIGATION

A criminal information was filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of California against W. H. Merchant and J. H. Mallot of the Woodlake Packing House, Woodlake, California and Joseph Segal of Los Angeles, California, (1) for falsely reporting oranges handled by them, (2) for shipping oranges without assigning allotments in connection therewith, (3) for shipping oranges in excess of their allotment and tolerance, and (4) for handling oranges without allotment; all in violation of the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, as amended, and Marketing Order No. 66 regulating the handling of oranges grown in the States of California and Arizona.

Criminal information was filed against Dekle Brokerage Co., Inc., Fruit Distributing Co., Inc., Mobile, Alabama and R. E. and L. W. Lundy, Eustis, Florida, charging violation of the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, as amended, and Marketing Order No. 33 regulating the handling of oranges, grapefruit, and tangerines grown in the state of Florida.

John Claggett, Chicago Compliance officer, and Morris Stickgold, Special Agent in Charge, Chicago Field Office, attended the PMA and Grain Warehousemen National Conference, and the meeting of the North Central Potato Committee, at Minneapolis last week. Later in the week Stickgold conferred with C&I and PMA representatives at Fargo, North Dakota.

Albert C. Christian, Special Agent in Charge of the Accounting and Compliance Division, Chicago Field Office, was in Washington, October 30 and 31 for policy discussions with William H. Duggan, Director, and John Bachmann, in charge of the Accounting and Investigation Division of C&I. Later in the week he conferred with Frank Hauser, C&I representative on compliance matters at Cleveland.

C. J. Goodsell, Lansing, Michigan potato handler, was fined \$200 in Federal District Court, Detroit, November 1, following a plea of guilty to two counts of a criminal information charging unlawful disposition of undergrade potatoes under Marketing Order No. 60. Goodsell was fined \$100 on each of the first two counts of the information, and paid the fines.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

CCC-owned commodities offered under the domestic sale program during November include nonfat dry milk solids, American cheese, salted creamery butter, raw linseed oil, flaxseed, dry edible beans and peas, Austrian winter pea seed, Blue Lupine seed, Kobe Lespedeza seed, Weeping Lovegrass seed, wheat, oats, barley, corn, grain sorghums, potato starch, and gum rosin. The cheese, butter, and the grass seeds aren't for sale under the export program but all the other commodities listed for domestic sale are. In addition, foreign buyers, under the export program, may obtain fresh Irish potatoes, and dried whole eggs.

CCC reported today that \$3,014,190,000 was invested in CCC price support program loans and inventories as of September 30, 1950 and that the Corporation sustained a net realized loss of \$28,199,000 in carrying out this program during the current fiscal year through September. The net realized loss on the CCC price support program for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1950, was \$249,230,000.

* * *

Chicago's Commodity Office lost one of its most valuable employees last week with the retirement on October 31 of Joe Mangum. For the past several years Joe has been in charge of the Claims Unit of the Programs Examination Section, Fiscal Division, and in that position and 13 years of additional prior service with USDA, rendered valuable services to the Department.

Fellow employees and friends from every section of Chicago's PMA office presented him with a handsome "two-suiter" and a box of his favorite cigars as a farewell token of their good wishes. Joe left Chicago, Monday with Mrs. Mangum for Memphis to visit old friends and to arrange a 1951 production program for his cotton farm in the Mississippi Delta area near his home city. He plans to increase the cotton acreage on the farm in line with the Department's request for all-out cotton production next year.

COTTON BRANCH

Parity for cotton reached a new record high in mid-October, and prices received by farmers (for cotton) averaged the highest for any October on record. And since mid-October, spot prices for Middling 15/16 inch have gained about \$15 a bale. A strong trade demand continues to take most offerings as the crop movement reaches its peak. Weather conditions continued favorable for the maturity and harvesting of cotton over most of the belt this week, and farmers were offering current ginnings freely. Loan entries through October 26 totaled only 2,241 bales - much smaller than during the like period last year. In mid-October, farmers were averaging market prices that were 122 percent of current parity.

DAIRY BRANCH

Price-Support Purchases and Sales, through October 27:

(Figures in Pounds)

<u>Product</u>	<u>Purchases Oct. 23-27</u>	<u>Total 1950 Purchases 1/</u>	<u>1949-50 Purchases Unsold as of Oct. 27</u>
Butter A	---	84,125,815	(
Butter B	---	43,819,818	(159,500,000
Butter C	---	---	
		<u>127,945,633</u>	
Cheese	158,344	108,734,585	50,600,000
Spray milk solids	1,370,715	255,319,612	(
Roller milk			(
solids	---	94,277,710	(301,300,000
	<u>1,370,715</u>	<u>349,597,322</u>	

<u>Product</u>	<u>Sales to Trade Week End. Oct. 27</u>	<u>1950 Sales to Domestic Trade</u>
Butter A	933,260	17,045,464
Butter B	855,257	8,193,210
Butter C	168,624	1,672,455
	<u>1,957,141</u>	<u>26,911,129</u>
Cheese A	198,515	7,399,190
Cheese B	6,902	1,068,620
Cheese C	2,063	397,374
	<u>207,480</u>	<u>8,865,184</u>
Spray milk		
solids	839,804	3,037,880
Roller milk		
solids	1,457,334	4,016,456
	<u>2,297,138</u>	<u>7,054,336</u>

1/ Adjusted for contract amendments.

* * *

Preston Richards will speak Thursday at the meeting of the American Butter Institute at the Drake Hotel, Chicago. He will also speak at the meeting of the National Milk Producers Federation in Minneapolis the first two days of next week.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has recommended issuance of Federal orders to regulate the handling of milk in the Southern Illinois and Suburban St. Louis milk marketing areas. The Department's recommendations were based on evidence received at public hearings held in Murphysboro, Ill., March 7 and in East St. Louis, Illinois, February 23. The proposal for a Southern Illinois Federal order was submitted by the Prairie Farms Creamery of Carbondale, Ill. The proposal for the Suburban St. Louis Federal order was submitted by the Sanitary Milk Producers, St. Louis. The marketing area to which the Southern Illinois order would apply includes 13 counties in southern Illinois. The proposed milk marketing area for Suburban St. Louis would include all of the territory within Jersey, Madison, Monroe, and Bond counties and parts of Macoupin, Clinton, and St. Clair counties, all in Illinois.

FATS AND OILS BRANCH

1951 Peanut Marketing Quota and Acreage Allotment:

On October 26, the Secretary proclaimed that the national marketing quota for the 1951 crop of peanuts is 650,000 tons, that the normal yield of peanuts for the United States is 734 pounds per acre, and the national acreage allotment for the 1951 crop is 1,771,117 acres. The proclamation, which also contains the apportionment of the national acreage allotment to the States was published in the Federal Register on Oct. 31. (15 F.R. 7291).

1950 Tung Nut Price Support Program:

When the CCC Board of Directors approved the 1949 crop tung nut price support program, they also approved price support for the 1950 crop at 60% of parity. The October 15 parity price for tung nuts announced by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics on October 27, 1950, was \$105 per ton; therefore, the support price for tung nuts will be \$63 per ton, and the support price for oil will be 25.1 cents per pound. Price supports will be carried out by purchase agreements covering nuts and oil and grower loans on oil.

1950 Crop Peanut Program - Purchase Prices:

Effective October 30, and until further notice, CCC announced that it will purchase excess (oil) farmers' stock peanuts and oil stock peanuts at the following prices:

Oil Stock Peanuts:

- Virginia-Carolina Area - 7-1/2 cents per pound
- (Southeastern Area) - 8-1/4 cents per pound
- (Southwestern Area)

Excess (oil) Farmers' Stock:

- Virginia-Carolina Area - Virginia, Spanish and Valencias 9.7 cents per pound of kernels.
- Southeastern Area - S.E. Spanish, 9.6 cents per pound of kernels, Virginia and Runners 9.9 cents per pound of kernels.
- Southwestern Area - Spanish and Valencias 10.2 cents per pound of kernels.

Sales of Linseed Oil:

CCC sales of linseed oil during the week ending October 27 totaled 334,000 pounds, including 214,000 for export and 120,000 for domestic use.

* * *

Prices to growers of 1950-crop tung nuts will be supported by the Commodity Credit Corporation at 60 percent of parity as of November 1, 1950. This is the minimum support level permitted under the Agricultural Act of 1949. The average support price for tung nuts will be \$63 per ton, basis 17.5 percent oil content. Grower-owned tung oil will be supported at 25.1 cents per pound.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION FRANCH

Section 416

Under the provisions of Section 416 of the Agricultural Act of 1949, state distributing agencies as of November 1 had placed orders for over 23,000,000 pounds of butter, 13,000,000 pounds of cheese, 3,800,000 pounds of dried eggs, 8,900,000 pounds of nonfat dry milk solids, and 151,000,000 pounds of Irish potatoes. All five of these commodities are being distributed to nonprofit school lunch programs, charitable institutions, and welfare families.

As of the same date, private welfare agencies assisting needy persons outside the United States have ordered 7,000,000 pounds of butter, 3,000,000 pounds of cheese, 6,000,000 pounds of dried eggs, and 30,000,000 pounds of nonfat dry milk solids.

Plentiful Foods

As one indication of how the consumption of certain foods is stimulated through the Plentiful Foods Program, the special effort on sweet potatoes in the Inter-mountain area jumped sales of reporting retail grocers "at least 60%" during the special merchandising week.

School Lunch

School lunch programs have been notified of the good supply of smaller sized apples available this fall. These apples are well suited to school lunch use. States were requested to list apples as a School Lunch Special in the plentiful foods list sent monthly to participating schools.

* * *

Oscar F. Beyer and Walter Patterson will attend a branch conference in Washington next week. It will relate particularly to food trades program as applied to the mobilization program.

Floyd H. Tuchscher is in Wisconsin this week visiting schools in connection with the school lunch program, and arranging for the first all private and parochial school lunch workshop to be held at Eau Claire.

C. Roy Murphy, Washington is in Kansas City this week for the convention of the School Food Service Association. Jeanette Hampton of the St. Louis office, also is attending.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE BRANCH

Purchase of 1950-crop Irish potatoes through October 31 totaled 14,047,396 hundredweight. Of this amount, 3,641,109 hundredweight went to livestock feed; 781,434 to Section 416; 711,366 to starch; 36,375 to penal institutions; 41,494 to storage; 31,800 to flour; 4,199 to experimental use; 23,900 to export; and 8,775,719 to resale.

Purchase of sweet potatoes through October 31 totaled 63,500 bushels in Louisiana and 500 bushels in Texas. All were distributed to school lunch or other institutional uses.

(more)

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE BRANCH (Cont'd)

Export subsidy programs through October 28 stood at:

Apples, 334,527 boxes; \$416,242

Pears, 255,611 boxes; \$319,513

Honey, 9,130,840 pounds; \$410,887

* * *

New members and alternate members of the North Central Potato Committee are James Kennedy of Clear Lake, Iowa, member, and Orville Thoreson, Swea City, Iowa, alternate; and Elmer L. Mitchell, Rochester, Indiana, member, and W. K. Gast, Akron, Indiana, alternate. All four are producers.

A federal marketing order will go into effect November 12 to regulate the handling of potatoes grown in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Vermont. In a recent referendum the order was favored by producers of 69.3 percent of the potato production represented in the voting.

* * *

Processed Foods:

Inspection work on the Texas crop of fall vegetables and citrus is in full swing, with many inspectors being transferred to plants there. Needs of the military for processed foods has resulted in an increase of activity as all purchases must be inspected by Branch officials. The Army has put into force again its World War II policy of negotiating for purchases at the canneries, rather than operating on a bid basis. Max S. Austen is in Chicago until Thursday of this week to confer on the latter activities.

GRAIN BRANCH

The big news last week was Secretary Brannan's announcement that in order to assist in assuring an abundant production of meat and other livestock products, there will be no marketing quotas in effect for the 1951 crop of corn and that acreage allotments for this important feed grain will be set at levels high enough to provide a substantial increase in production next year. Acreage allotments for corn are required by the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938. The allotments, applying only in designated commercial producing areas, will be determined and announced later in the winter. Apart from the question of legislative requirement, Grain Branch officials say experience has shown that grain acreage increases can be obtained more effectively with allotments than without them. Allotments give individual farmers a specific objective in effecting desired increases.

* * *

July-September exports of United States grains and grain products was approximately 98,284,000 bushels of grain equivalent as compared with 155,112,000 bushels of grain equivalent in the same period of 1949.

* * *

During the period October 18 to October 24, 1950, inclusive, CCC confirmed sales of 6,972,000 bushels of wheat, (including wheat and wheat flour in wheat equivalent) under the International Wheat Agreement against 1950-51 Wheat Agreement quotas. Cumulative sales to October 24 against 1950-51 quotas are 59,323,000 bushels. This compares with cumulative sales at this time last year of about 13,000,000 bushels.

(more)

GRAIN BRANCH (Cont'd)

The U. S. Department of Agriculture announced that through September 1950, farmers had put approximately 127,776,614 bushels of 1950-crop wheat, barley, oats, rye, flaxseed, soybeans, corn, and grain sorghums under CCC price support. During the like period last year, the 1949-crop support total for the same grains and oilseeds was 297,948,920 bushels.

* * *

Jacob M. Schaffer, marketing specialist, Washington, is in Detroit this week through Wednesday to appear as a witness in a court hearing in connection with alleged violation of Grain Conservation order.

* * *

LIVESTOCK BRANCH

A weekly report covering range livestock operations, based on material gathered by the Market News Reporting Service, is being issued to press and radio news wire services and to Midwest farm and livestock publications.

* * *

Meat production under federal inspection during the week ended October 28 totaled 326 million pounds. There was a small increase in slaughter over the previous week, except for sheep, but all species were below last year.

MARKETING FACILITIES AND RESEARCH BRANCH

A study of the handling of Illinois-grown soybeans, from the time the harvested beans leave the farmer until they reach the processor, has just been completed by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the University of Illinois.

POULTRY BRANCH

Price support purchases of dried whole eggs dropped off sharply last week to a total of only 100,080 pounds, all for November delivery. Heavy cancellations, of 303,630 pounds, left total purchases for the year so far at 82,382,868 pounds.

Sales for export were lighter than for several weeks, the total disposed of amounting to only 34,070 pounds at about 28 cents a pound f.o.b. the warehouse. Total export sales under this program now stand at 5,972,321 pounds.

The requisition for 9,951,800 pounds of dried whole eggs to be sent to Yugoslavia is being prepared by the Poultry Branch. Deliveries will be made in barrels or drums f.a.s. East Coast and Gulf ports. The eggs to be shipped were purchased for price support purposes in 1949.

(more)

POULTRY BRANCH (Cont'd)

Final figures indicate that a total of 14,433,189 pounds of turkey were purchased by the CCC in price support operations under the 1949 support program. The total includes 8,648,473 pounds purchased during the 1949 marketing season ending December 31, 1949 and 5,784,716 pounds purchased for the month of July this year in the final phase of the program.

SUGAR BRANCH

Written data, views, or arguments on the proposed U. S. standards for edible sugarcane molasses and proposed U. S. standards for sugarcane sirup may be submitted up to January 20, to the director of the Sugar Branch, Production and Marketing Administration, Washington 25, D. C. The time has been extended.

TOBACCO BRANCH

F. R. Ellis, Assistant Chief of the Marketing Programs Division will be in Madison, November 17-18 to attend a meeting with cooperatives.

TRANSPORTATION AND WAREHOUSING BRANCH

Malcolm D. Clarke, Washington, will attend meetings in regard to establishing transit privileges on grain at off-line points in St. Louis, Tuesday and Chicago, Wednesday and Thursday. C. E. Raeder will attend meetings relative to grain and seed price support in Lincoln, Nebraska, Monday and Tuesday, in Des Moines Wednesday and Thursday, and Indianapolis, Friday.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
Information Branch
623 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois

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JUL 8 - 1951

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOR ADMINISTRATIVE USE ONLY

November 15, 1950

MIDWEST INFORMATION SUMMARY

To: PMA Offices, Midwest Area

From: John C. Baker, Chief, Information Branch, Midwest Area

THIS WEEK'S SPOTLIGHT

DAIRY AND POULTRY LABORATORY

It was shortly after Pearl Harbor and food was an important weapon of war. We were determined that our fighting men and allies should have the best.

One way to assure that they got the "tops" in such dried foods as eggs and milk, as well as butter and cheese, was to test samples of government purchases.

After gathering up some laboratory equipment, a small group of chemists soon were busy analyzing these samples in a few small rooms of the New Post Office Building. This was the humble beginning of what is now one of the busiest PMA agencies in Chicago...the Dairy and Poultry Laboratory in the Quarter-master Depot Building at 1819 West Pershing Road. It is headed by Dr. T. I. Hedrick, dairy bacteriologist and bio-chemist, who has been in charge since May 1949 after a span of service in educational and commercial fields. Assistant Chemist in Charge is Mrs. Edith I. Litt.

"Big Oaks from Little Acorns Grow" is an old saying that well conveys the development of this laboratory to its present size and scope.

After a few short months in the New Post Office Building, when it seemed as though everyone was drying and processing dairy and poultry products for the government, the lab moved to larger quarters in the Customs House. New and better equipment and more personnel were added, but these improved facilities also soon proved inadequate. The lab then shifted to 5 South Wabash Avenue, where its personnel and equipment were greatly expanded. Here it remained until May 1948 when it moved to its present address and secured the finest laboratory equipment available. It has just about outgrown its 4,500 square feet of floor space at this site.

(more)

In peak season there are now 20 chemists, 10 scientific aids and 12 clerk-typists on Dr. Hedrick's staff. The personnel is only a trifle smaller when work volume is lowest in the early fall months. Only graduate chemists and bacteriologists are employed to perform the actual analytical tests. The aids usually have some scientific training and assist with auxiliary duties of less technical nature.

The laboratory's work continued after the war in order to analyze samples of dairy and poultry products for Lend-Lease, Red Cross and other agencies who have fed the destitute in war torn countries. It has also tested samples of school lunch purchases and foods acquired by the government under its price support programs.

Meanwhile, the laboratory has greatly increased its services to industry. Commercial operators who want protection from losses resulting from the production of inferior quality products have brought their problems to the laboratory. It has also performed tests for smaller dairies and manufacturers whose operations are not big enough to warrant laboratories of their own. Manufacturers who do have their own laboratories draw upon Dr. Hedrick's staff to check the effectiveness of their testing procedures.

During the past year, the laboratory has been busy analyzing samples of nonfat dry milk solids, whole egg powder and cheddar cheese for purchase by the Commodity Credit Corporation under the price support program.

* * * *

ON THE CALENDAR

Tuesday, November 14	Minneapolis - Regional grain meeting, PMA. Minneapolis - National Milk Producers' Federation Urbana - Cheesemakers Conference, U. of Illinois
Wednesday, November 15-16	Chicago - Stevens Hotel - Regional grain meeting, PMA Chicago - Area Grain Trade Committee with PMA.
Friday, November 17	West Lafayette, Indiana - Purdue Cattle Feeders' Day
Monday, November 20-21	Grand Rapids, Michigan - Michigan Cannery Assoc.
November 20-21	Des Moines, Iowa - Western Grain & Feed Association
Thursday, November 23	Thanksgiving Day Holiday
Friday, November 24-26	Madison - Wisconsin Potato Show
Saturday, November 25-	
December 2	Chicago - International Livestock Show
Sunday, November 26-30	Chicago - National 4-H Club Congress

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

G. E. Tichenor, Deputy Assistant Director for Management and John Haughey, Acting Chief, Office of Administrative Services, Washington, are both in Chicago this week in connection with program arrangements for the National PMA Conference scheduled for Chicago, December 11-14.

While here, Mr. Tichenor will present two cash awards of \$10 each for suggestions on management improvement to Mrs. Emby T. Kissane, area Administrative Services Division. The presentation will be made at a joint meeting of Administrative Services and Personnel staffs Tuesday afternoon. One of Mrs. Kissane's suggestions recommended the use of a standardized form for reporting contract and lease changes to Washington. The suggestion led to the elimination of the formal report of such transactions.

* * *

An area Management and Improvement Awards Committee for Personnel Management and Administrative Services Divisions, has been established. Members include John S. Bomba, Leota H. Zohm, Muriel Palmer, Hannah K. Dowell, Chairman, and Ryoko Kunitatsu.

PERSONNEL

Carl Barnes, Chief of the Classification Section, Personnel Services Office, Washington, is here to discuss classification matters with Chicago area officials.

OFFICE OF AUDIT

R. G. Blixt is new auditor in charge at the Minneapolis PMA Commodity Office, replacing T. F. Whitehead who becomes Assistant Chief of the Fiscal Division at that office. R. L. Wright, Assistant Chief Auditor, PMA, will be in Minneapolis this week to install Blixt in his new position.

* * *

J. F. McShea and A. E. Smith of the Washington Office of Audit, all currently working in the Chicago office in connection with general audit matters, particularly internal audits.

* * *

The semi-annual inventory of commodities in the Atchison, Kansas cave has been completed. M. R. Langton acted as observer.

* * *

Audits of several cherry packers will be started this week.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

Appointment of Marvin C. Smith as assistant director, Chicago Commodity Office, was announced November 10 - effective October 29. Mr. Smith takes the place of Donald E. Smith, who has been appointed Director of the Kansas City Commodity Office. Both men have served in acting capacities for several weeks.

(more)

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION (Cont'd)

Pea beans from the 1949 crop, 750,000 bags have been offered for domestic sale, at \$7.85 per bag. This is in addition to 250,000 bags from the 1948 crop included in list of commodities available for sale during November.

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE AND INVESTIGATION

A fine of \$200 was imposed on C. J. Goodsell, Lansing, Michigan, in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan following the entry of a plea of guilty to a criminal information charging Goodsell with violations of Marketing Order No. 60 regulating the handling of Irish potatoes grown in the States of Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and North Dakota.

COTTON BRANCH

Spot cotton prices soared to a new 30-year high last week. The markets were only moderately active during most of the week, but trading increased sharply on Wednesday and Thursday, following issuance of the October report putting the crop at 9,945,000 bales (nearly 6,200,000 bales smaller than last year's outturn), and announcement of an increase of 1,350,000 bales in interim export allocations (raising the total to 3,496,000 bales) through March 31, 1951.

* * *

International Cotton Advisory Committee reported that world cotton production in 1950-51 will be large enough to maintain world consumption at last year's level and may even permit a slight increase. The Committee stated that present high prices for cotton will encourage continuation of the trend toward increased production outside the United States.

DAIRY BRANCH

No cheese purchases were made last week -- the first week without such purchases since last March. No butter purchases have been made since mid-September. Purchases of nonfat dry milk solids last week were only 238,075 pounds as compared with sales to the trade of 3,213,328 pounds.

* * *

Arrangements for the sale of 4.4 million pounds of cheese and 15 million pounds of nonfat dry milk solids to the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, for use chiefly in school lunch and child feeding programs, were completed last week.

(more)

DAIRY BRANCH (Cont'd)

Price-Support Purchases and Sales, through November 3:
(Figures in Pounds)

<u>Product</u>	<u>Purchases</u> <u>Oct. 30-Nov. 3</u>	<u>Total 1950</u> <u>Purchases 1/</u>	<u>1949-50 Purchases</u> <u>Unsold as of Nov. 3</u>
Butter A	---	84,125,815	{ 148,800,000
Butter B	---	43,819,818	
Butter C	---	---	
		<u>127,945,633</u>	
Cheese	---	108,734,585	42,700,000
Spray milk			
solids	238,075	255,557,687	{ 290,100,000
Roller milk			
solids	---	94,277,710	
	<u>238,075</u>	<u>349,835,397</u>	

<u>Product</u>	<u>Sales to Trade</u> <u>Oct. 30-Nov. 3</u>	<u>1950 Sales to</u> <u>Domestic Trade</u>
Butter A	1,058,724	18,096,636
Butter B	657,306	8,849,239
Butter C	33,960	1,706,415
	<u>1,749,990</u>	<u>28,652,290</u>
Cheese A	185,012	7,584,201
Cheese B	70,175	1,138,796
Cheese C	9,434	406,809
	<u>264,621</u>	<u>9,129,806</u>
Spray milk		
solids	736,125	3,774,005
Roller milk		
solids	2,477,203	6,939,753
	<u>3,213,328</u>	<u>10,713,758</u>

1/ Adjusted for Contract amendments

* * *

Changes in two milk marketing orders in Midwest cities have been proposed. Public hearing will be held November 29 in Duluth to consider enlarging Duluth-Superior market, and changes in price provisions. PMA has recommended five changes in marketing order for Kansas City, Mo., based on evidence at hearings last May.

* * *

Preston Richards, Dairy Branch Chief, speaks at the meeting of the National Milk Producers Federation held in Minneapolis Monday and Tuesday.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION BRANCH

State welfare agencies have requested 270 million pounds of surplus foods, up to October 31. Requests for foreign relief purposes, made by private agencies, totaled nearly 74 million pounds. All requests to that date had been filled. Commodities supplied for distribution have included nearly 9 million pounds of dried skim milk, 4 million pounds of dried eggs, 218 million pounds of potatoes, 24 million pounds of butter, and 13 million pounds of cheese. Foreign relief distribution has included 47 million pounds of dried skim milk, 7 million pounds of dried eggs, 12 million pounds of butter, and 6 million pounds of cheese.

* * *

One of the four major resolutions adopted by the food chains in their recent annual meeting "to further the nation's efforts to reinforce its economy and build its military strength" was to "support programs for the promotion of the consumption of food items in plentiful supply."

* * *

Preliminary September School Lunch reports (from about one-third of the States) indicate that participation is 10 percent larger than in September 1949. Participation was at an all-time high last year.

* * *

John James will spend this week in Indiana conferring with school lunch and direct distribution program supervisors.

* * *

Charles Croghan is at Cleveland, Ohio this week, in charge of a Plentiful Foods exhibit at the Cleveland Foods and Home Show. Local tradesmen have cooperated to make it possible to display all foods currently in plentiful supply and to provide facilities for handling the foods.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE BRANCH

Organization of the North Central Potato Committee which administers Marketing Order 60, has been completed with the selection of a committee manager and election of officers. Named to the managership is Ralph Headley, formerly of Yakima, Washington, where he was associated with General Mills. Headley is in charge of the committee office at Minneapolis. Chairman of the area committees are O. J. Odegaard, for Minnesota and Iowa; Fred P. Hibst, Michigan and Indiana; R. A. Tallackson, North Dakota; and Ben H. Diercks, Wisconsin. Mr. Hibst was elected chairman of the Committee as a whole.

Marketing regulations recommended by the committee at a meeting in Minneapolis in late October have been approved by USDA. They provide that all unwashed potatoes sold be of U. S. Commercial grade, containing not less than 85 percent, U. S. No. 1 quality in the northern part of the production area, and U. S. No. 2 with not less than 65 percent U.S. No. 1 quality in the southern part. All washed potatoes to qualify as U. S. No. 2 grade are required to contain not less than 30 percent U.S. No. 1 quality throughout the area. Size regulations provide a 2-inch minimum for round varieties, and 1-3/4 inch minimum for long varieties.

(more)

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE BRANCH (Cont'd)

Maine reports that early frosts reduced the pack of canned corn there to only about 30 or 35 percent of normal.

* * *

Purchase of sweetpotatoes through November 7 totaled 64,373 bushels in Louisiana; 500 in Texas; and 1,072 in Georgia.

* * *

Purchase of 1950-crop Irish potatoes through November 7 totaled 14,795,063 hundredweight. Of this amount, 3,880,574 hundredweight went to livestock feed; 843,306 to Section 416; 872,655 to starch; 37,455 to penal institutions; 43,667 to storage; 46,737 to flour; 4,139 to experimental use; 24,400 to export; and 9,942,070 hundredweight to re-sale.

* * *

Export subsidy programs through November 4 stood at:

Apples, 357,643 boxes;	\$446,025
Pears, 266,414 boxes;	\$333,017
Honey, 9,605,770 pounds;	\$432,259

Fresh Products Inspection

Neal Sanborn will visit Nebraska and Colorado points this week and the first of next on supervisory work.

* * *

Regulatory

Edward Gibson in investigating PACA complaints in the Twin Cities this week. Wilson Miller will spend the next several weeks on similar work in Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Louisiana.

GRAIN BRANCH

Problems associated with price support of grains, especially corn, will be discussed by PMA officials of Chicago, Washington, and the five states served by the Chicago area office, Wednesday and Thursday. The meeting will be held in the Stevens Hotel.

* * *

Commercial corn area continues to expand, now estimated at about 857 counties - 20 or 21 more counties than last year. Commercial area produces about 85 percent of total corn crop. Law requires that allotments for 1951 crop be proclaimed not later than February 1.

POULTRY BRANCH

Purchases of dried whole eggs under the 1950 price support program gained a little this week, the total buy adding up to 183,024 pounds with cancellations at 52,840 pounds. For the year to date, purchases now total 82,513,052 pounds.

No sales of dried eggs were made this week under the export program, the total still standing at 5,972,321 pounds.

(more)

POULTRY BRANCH (Cont'd)

Public hearings will be held in Washington, November 29 and 30 on proposals to establish official inspection for ready-to-cook poultry.

SUGAR BRANCH

Public hearings on sugar requirements for 1951 will be held in Washington on November 28. Written statements on requirements, quotas, and related topics may be submitted before December 11.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
Information Branch
623 South Webash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois

CONFIDENTIAL

JUL 6 - 1951

FOR ADMINISTRATIVE USE ONLY

November 20, 1950

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

MIDWEST INFORMATION SUMMARY

To: PMA Offices, Midwest Area

From: John C. Baker, Chief, Information Branch, Midwest Area

THIS WEEK'S SPOTLIGHT

Insecticide Division, Livestock Branch

The PMA fellow you see in midwest stores "snitching" poisons for destroying such pests as flies, weeds, rats and the like, is not a shoplifter. He is genial "Bill" Tiedt who headquarters at 999 Exchange Avenue, in the Chicago stockyards area.

As a roving investigator for the Insecticide Division of the Livestock Branch, which administers the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, Bill frequently is seen reaching for these poisons. Right others like him in PMA do the same in stores throughout other sections of the country.

It is all quite legal and above board, however, and the proprietor knows all about it. In fact, he gets paid for whatever is "snitched." Bill's actions are actually designed as a form of protection to farmers, household consumers and others who use the poisons.

That is, anyone who can read and understand a label is protected. Proper labeling is one of the chief concerns of the I.F.R. Act, which has set up rules for the poison business.

All insecticides, fungicides, rodenticides, weed killers and disinfectants must be registered with the government and their labeling examined and registered before they can be placed on the market. Poisons cannot be sold legally if false claims are made for them, or if the composition of the product is different from that which appears on the label.

One major purpose of the Act is to protect the public from being duped into buying worthless or dangerous poisons...poisons which are sold under false claims, or without an adequate warning of their effect on both humans and the pests for which they are intended. Another is to see that the poisons are prepared and packaged in such a way that they will not be mistaken for other products like foods and medicines. Even when elaborate precautions are taken, people still die every year from careless handling of these poisons.

(more)

For example, poisons which are highly toxic to humans must carry a conspicuous skull and crossbones on the label. In addition, the word POISON must be printed prominently in red color on a contrasting background. Then, just to play safe, a statement of an antidote for the poison must be printed on the label. The poisons also must be colored or discolored according to certain regulations. White powders have a way of looking harmless to children and to some thoughtless adults. But when they are given vivid coloring, they are not as apt to be used carelessly.

Labels of poisons are required by the Act to carry certain specific information. They must show the name, address of the manufacturer, as well as the name, brand or trademark under which the article is sold and the net weight or measure of the contents.

These materials, cannot be sold in interstate commerce unless the labels are reviewed and the products are registered with the Department of Agriculture. More than 27,000 registrations are on file and the number is increasing. The manufacturer must also be prepared to submit on request a full description of the tests and the results obtained upon which the claims are based.

Bill Tiedt's taking of samples from store shelves is another protective step. He and other investigators send these samples to one of the Insecticide Division's laboratories located at Beltsville, Md., New York, and San Francisco. There the poisons are examined and tested to determine if printed contents on the labels conform to the actual content. They are used according to directions to see if they are effective. The toxicity of the poisons is determined and antidote information checked.

Investigators also look for products that have not been registered under the Act.

The effectiveness of all these precautionary measures, however, depends on whether you read the label and follow the directions.

* * *

ON THE CALENDAR

Monday, November 20-21	Grand Rapids - Michigan Cannery Association
Monday, November 20-21	Turkey Run State Park - Indiana Soil Conservation District Supervisors
Monday, November 20-21	Des Moines - Western Grain and Feed Assn.
Thursday, November 23	THANKSGIVING DAY - HOLIDAY
Friday, November 24-25	Chicago - Sherman Hotel, Society of Animal Production
Friday, November 24	Madison, Wisconsin Potato Show
Saturday, November 25- December 2	Chicago - International Livestock Show
Saturday, November 25-26	Chicago - Stevens Hotel-Radio Farm Directors
Sunday, November 26-29	Edgewater Beach Hotel-County Agricultural Agents
Sunday, November 26-29	Milwaukee - Vegetable Growers Association
Sunday, November 26-30	Chicago-Stevens Hotel-National 4-H Club Congress

(more)

ON THE CALENDAR (Cont'd)

Monday, November 27-28	Indianapolis - FMA Corn Allotment meeting. State Committeemen from all commercial corn states.
Monday, November 27-Dec. 2	Chicago - National Livestock Producers Assoc.
Monday, November 27	Chicago - Training course for new fruit, vegetable inspectors.
Wednesday, November 29-30	W. Lafayette - Purdue Poultry Breeding School
Wednesday, November 29	Washington - FMA meeting on poultry & rabbit grading.
Wednesday, November 29	Duluth, Minnesota - Hearing on changes in milk order.

* * *

ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

Administrator Trigg spoke at annual meeting of Grocery Manufacturers of America last week, outlining current thinking on food situation: Very few controls of type used in World War II will be needed in visible future. Price ceilings not in picture now; ceilings cannot be placed on agricultural commodities below parity, and most commodities are now below parity. Objective of USDA is to help farmers to keep production at high levels.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Planning for annual conference, December 11-14 is proceeding. Mrs. W. A. Hilgeson, wife of F&V Regulatory Division chief, is serving as social chairman, making plans for entertainment of wives who accompany their husbands to Chicago.

AUDIT BRANCH

Joe Scanlon who has been auditing accounts of wool handlers for the past two years will transfer to the Fiscal Division of the Chicago Commodity Office this week to assume a new position as Methods and Organization Analyst in this division.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

R. W. Hostrup, chief of the Fiscal Division, is attending the conference of the Western Feed and Grain Association at Des Moines, Iowa this week.

M. R. Livingston, assistant director of Management, returned to his office this week after two weeks in Washington, conferring with CCC officials in connection with Chicago office operations.

FMA state officials in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, and Ohio met at the Stevens Hotel, November 15 and 16 to discuss operational procedures in connection with current active price support programs with representatives of CCC from Washington and the Chicago Commodity office.

COMPLIANCE AND INVESTIGATION

Ezear Collette, Grafton, N. D., was fined \$75 and costs in Federal District Court, at GrandForks, N. D., on charges of having shipped a carlot of potatoes which failed to meet grade requirements of Marketing Order No. 60. The potatoes were shipped in September 1949. Collette entered a plea of nolo contendere.

A civil complaint was filed in the United States District Court for the District of North Dakota against Oswald Braaton and Hjalmar Braaten, co-partners, of the Braaten Bros. Farms Co., Reynolds, North Dakota, seeking to recover \$28,502.72 plus interest and costs of the suit, representing the amount due CCC from the defendants on a defaulted 1946 potato loan.

COTTON BRANCH

Cotton prices last week climbed above the 42-cent level for the first time since the spring of 1920. Prices for Middling 1b/16 inch averaged 42.78 cents per pound in the 10 spot markets on Thursday, November 16 compared with 41.68 cents a week earlier and 29.63 cents a year ago. The last time spot prices were at the present level was in April 1920.

Stocks of cotton in mills increased during October and at the end of the month totaled 1,490,000 bales. End-of-October mill stocks were equivalent to over 1-1/2 month's supply at the October rate of consumption. Stocks of cotton in public storage and compresses totaled 6,375,000 bales on October 28, compared with 4,891,000 bales a month earlier and 8,469,000 a year ago.

DAIRY BRANCH

A limited amount of about 5,700,000 pounds of roller and spray type nonfat dry milk solids has been offered for sale to the trade under competitive bidding for use as animal feed. These supplies, a portion of the 675 million pounds purchased by CCC in 1949 and 1950, have fallen below Standard Grade in quality and are not salable as human food.

* * *

Hearings on several Midwest milk marketing orders have been announced during the past week:

- November 27: St. Louis. Proposal to change method of calculating supply and demand in St. Louis market.
- November 29: Duluth, Minnesota. Proposal to enlarge order for Duluth-Superior.
- November 30: Toledo. Re-opening of hearing held last June on increase of prices for Classes I and II.
- December 4: Chicago. Proposal to merge Chicago and suburban market areas.
- December 4: Coopersville, Michigan. Proposal to establish marketing order for Western Michigan, including Grand Rapids, Muskegon, Grand Haven, and Holland.

Proposals also have been made to change pricing provisions of the marketing order for Kansas City, Mo.

(more)

DAIRY BRANCH (Cont'd)

Price-Support Purchases and Sales, through November 11:
(Figures in Pounds)

<u>Product</u>	<u>Purchases Nov. 6-10</u>	<u>Total 1950 Purchases 1/</u>	<u>1949-50 Purchases Unsold as of Nov. 10</u>
Butter A	---	84,125,815	{ 144,600,000
Butter B	---	43,819,818	
Butter C	---	---	
		<u>127,945,633</u>	
Cheese	169,492	108,904,077	41,800,000
Spray milk solids	359,715	255,907,803	{ 271,900,000
Roller milk solids	45,000	94,296,984	
	<u>404,715</u>	<u>350,204,787</u>	

<u>Product</u>	<u>Sales to Trade Wk..End. Nov. 10</u>	<u>1950 Sales to Domestic Trade</u>
Butter A	1,438,631	19,535,268
Butter B	1,215,757	10,064,996
Butter C	670,504	2,376,919
	<u>3,324,892</u>	<u>31,977,183</u>
Cheese A	691,524	8,275,725
Cheese B.	15,801	1,154,597
Cheese C	---	406,809
	<u>707,325</u>	<u>9,837,131</u>
Spray milk solids	840,876	4,615,106
Roller milk solids	1,840,765	8,780,318
	<u>2,681,641</u>	<u>13,395,424</u>

1/ Adjusted for Contract amendments.

FATS AND OILS BRANCH

During the week November 3-9, 1950 CCC sold for crushing 3,797 tons of excess (oil) farmers' stock peanuts and 2,608 tons of No. 2 shelled peanuts.

* * *

George L. Prichard, Director of the Fats and Oils Branch, has been requested to testify on November 29 before "The Select Committee to Investigate the Use of Chemicals in Food Stuffs, Insecticides, and Fertilizers." Mr. Prichard's testimony at the Congressional Hearing will concern the use of emulsifiers in food.

* * *

CCC sales of linseed oil during the week of November 9-15, 1950, totaled approximately 1,000,000 pounds, of which almost 900,000 pounds were for export and the remainder for domestic use.

(more)

FATS AND OILS BRANCH (Cont'd)

During the period November 1-15, 1950, CCC acquired approximately 1,000,000 pounds of tung oil under the 1949 price support program for tung nuts and oil.

* * *

On November 21, 1950, George L. Prichard, Director of the Fats and Oils Branch will address the Flax Institute of the United States at their annual meeting at Minneapolis, Minnesota.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION BRANCH

Since January, under the provisions of Section 416 of the Agricultural Act of 1949, State distributing agencies have ordered approximately 4 million pounds of dried eggs, over 9 million pounds of nonfat dry milk solids, 26 million pounds of butter, 15-1/2 million pounds of cheese, and 129 million pounds of Irish potatoes. Distribution is being made to nonprofit school lunch programs, charitable institutions and welfare families. In addition, private welfare agencies assisting needy persons outside the United States have ordered almost 9 million pounds of dried eggs, 55 million pounds of nonfat dry milk solids, 20 million pounds of butter, and 13 million pounds of cheese.

Floyd Tuchscher and Ina Morris will participate in a school lunch workshop to be held at Eau Claire, Wisconsin, Friday for private and parochial schools. Tuchscher spent part of last week in Kansas City, Missouri, conferring on the direct distribution program in that state. Clair Underwood was in Ohio last week to discuss the availability of potatoes with state direct distribution and state PMA representatives. John Janus is making an analysis of direct distribution operations at Lincoln, Nebraska this week, and Roland Cerveny is inspecting Chicago welfare outlets for commodities distributed through the Illinois Public Aid Commission.

Mrs. Bertha Olson, chief of the food preservation section, spent part of last week at the Chicago office. Eva Habin, of Purdue University visited the Chicago office Friday to discuss a study she is making of frozen food standards.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE BRANCH

Grade and size regulations on potatoes governed by Marketing Order No. 60, become effective on November 27 and continue until June 1 of next year. These regulations, listed in last week's Information Summary, affect potatoes produced in North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, northern Indiana and northern Iowa.

* * *

An export subsidy program on citrus fruits, similar to that of previous years, became effective on November 15. Government payments will be made up to half the export price on fresh and processed oranges and grapefruit. Program is established in effort to move big crop of oranges and grapefruit expected in all citrus areas. Last year's program moved 1,661,819 boxes of fresh oranges, 190,935 gallons of concentrated orange juice, and 72,311 cases of canned orange juice into export.

(more)

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE BRANCH (Cont'd)

Robert Needham, Lafayette, Indiana, has been restored his license to handle perishable fruits and vegetables in interstate and foreign commerce. Revalidation of license came when Needham made payment for truck load of sweet potatoes from a South Carolina grower. Non-payment had caused revocation of his license, under Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act, last June.

* * *

Purchase of 1950-crop Irish potatoes through November 16 totaled 15,646,671 hundredweight. Of this amount, 4,127,470 hundredweight went to livestock feed; 908,327 to Section 416; 1,109,956 to starch; 52,392 to flour; 38,535 to penal institutions; 4,199 to experimental use; 43,667 to storage; 49,100 to export; and 9,313,025 hundredweight to re-sale.

* * *

Purchase of sweetpotatoes through November 13 totaled 72,913 bushels. Of this amount 64,373 bushels were purchased in Louisiana; 500 bushels in Texas; and 8,040 bushels in Georgia.

* * *

Export subsidy programs through the week ending November 11 stood at:

Apples, 416,654 boxes; \$520,066

Pears, 300,711 boxes; \$375,888

Honey, 9,773,830 pounds; \$439,822.

* * *

Processed Products

Max S. Austen visited the University of Illinois last week to confer with members of several departments there on employment possibilities in the inspection service for future graduates.

* * *

Inspectors report dry weather in Texas has slowed processing of vegetables there.

* * *

M. W. Baker, deputy branch director, will take part in a panel discussion on utilization of federal grades in marketing vegetables at the annual convention of the Vegetable Growers Association of America at Milwaukee, November 30. R. E. Keller and Victor Ekstrom, will also attend sessions of the conference.

GRAIN BRANCH

Wheat agreement sales November 8-14 amounted to 2,664,000 bushels. Principal buyers were Brazil, Israel, Belgium, and India. Cumulative sales are over 67 million bushels, compared with 17 million bushels a year ago.

* * *

Grain prices went up during the week at Midwest markets. Wheat, corn, and oats up 3-5 cents; barley and grain sorghums, up 4-6 cents; soybeans up 15-16 cents; flaxseed, up 10 cents.

* * *

(more)

GRAIN BRANCH (Cont'd)

Harry H. Whiteside, Chicago Market News, assisted by Hugh Delaney, Inspection, will be one of the judges at this year's International Collegiate Crop Judging Contest to be held November 25 in conjunction with the International Livestock Show.

Whiteside will also judge hay for the International Grain and Hay Show sponsored by the Chicago Stockyards Company.

* * *

G. A. Collier, head of the Grain Market News Service at Washington, was a visitor to the Chicago office this week.

* * *

LIVESTOCK BRANCH

Packers have been invited to offer smoked/^{pork} shoulder picnics and also to offer lard for sale to FMA. The pork will be used for school lunches, and the lard is intended for export. Lard offerings must be made by November 21, and pork offerings by November 20.

* * *

Meat production under Federal inspection during the week ended November 11 was 339 million pounds, down 1 per cent from preceding week but 11 per cent above year ago.

* * *

Prices were mixed at Midwest livestock markets last week. Lighter steers, yearlings and heifers were higher than a week earlier; heavier steers were steady to lower; hogs, vealers, and lamb were lower. More livestock of all kinds came to market. Market tops: steers, \$35, highest since February; heifers, \$34; stock calves, \$41; yearling feeders, \$34. Butcher hogs, \$18.50. Lambs, \$31.50, on highest November market on record for lambs.

* * *

POULTRY BRANCH

Dried egg purchases for price support this week amounted to 413,794 pounds for November and December delivery. Although this was the heaviest buy for several weeks, cancellations totalled 210,154 pounds, making the net total buy of dried eggs for the year so far 82,716,692 pounds.

* * *

Export sales amounted to 39,900 pounds at about 29 cents a pound f.o.b. the warehouse. Total sales under the export program now stand at 6,012,221 pounds.

* * *

Wholesale prices for eggs in Chicago last week increased 2 - 5-1/2¢ per dozen over previous week.

Live poultry, receipts ample, prices steady, except for light weight turkeys which were in short supply. Hens closed 1/2 to 1-1/2 cents lower than week earlier. Active demand for roasting chickens for Thanksgiving holiday.

TRANSPORTATION AND WAREHOUSING BRANCH

Monthly cold storage report showing occupancy on October 31 reveals coolers 72 per cent occupied, an increase of 9 points during the month, and freezers 78 per cent occupied, an increase of 4 points. Total food in storage was 4.9 billion pounds, with 1.9 billion pounds in freezers and 3 billion pounds in coolers. Outstanding item in report was 453 million pounds of frozen vegetables in storage, largest ever reported. Lima beans made up most of increase. Shell eggs in storage were at lowest point on record for October 31.

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Page 2

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
Information Branch
623 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois

JUL 6 - 1951

FOR ADMINISTRATIVE USE ONLY

November 27, 1950 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

MIDWEST INFORMATION SUMMARY

TO: PMA Offices in Midwest Area

FROM: John C. Baker, Chief, Information Branch, Midwest Area

THIS WEEK'S SPOTLIGHT

Meat Grading

It was a happy day for consumers when words like "U.S. Choice" or "U.S. Good" first appeared on meats back in 1927.

Homemakers and others have since had a reliable, accurate guide for knowing exactly the quality of the meat they purchase, provided their butcher handles meat with these "U.S." -prefixed grade descriptions.

These purple colored grades are put on the meat directly at packing houses by men who have no meat to buy or sell and are interested only in seeing that the product is graded for what it actually is. They are the Federal Meat graders who form the backbone of the Meat Standardization and Grading Section of PMA's Livestock Branch.

Head of the grading service in the Chicago region is Robert S. Sharp who supervises (18) trained graders serving meat packers of Chicago, Peoria, and Elburn Illinois; and Madison and Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Headquarters are at 999 Exchange Avenue in the stockyards proper. Wyatt Adams, Assistant National Supervisor, also is headquartered at the Stockyards address.

These graders don't grade all of the meat handled in this area, for not all of the meat in the United States is federally graded. Sharp, as well as supervisors in other sections of the country, send their men out only upon request by meat distributors and packers who want their customers to be sure at all times what quality meat they are getting. Other grading systems are not always dependable...often are deceiving. The packer or slaughterer pays a fee for having the meat graded by the federal graders and these fees support the service.

The official USDA grades are U. S. Prime (the top grade), U. S. Choice, U. S. Good, U. S. Commercial and U. S. Utility. In addition, there are U. S. Canner and U. S. Cutter grades for beef and U. S. Cull grade for veal, lamb and mutton.

How do the graders determine into which of these grades a particular carcass or cut of meat belongs?

First of all, there are official standards for the different grades. The grader considers the texture or grain of the meat...the shape of the cut...its conformation...the distribution of the fat on the carcass and through the meat...and the color of the fat. And there is what might be termed a "sixth sense" which the grader possesses and which helps him determine the true grade. It is an intangible thing, hard to describe...sort of a feeling or understanding. But the grader must have it to do his job.

After deciding the grade of the meat, the grader marks it with a roller that carries a continuous grade description all down the entire side of the carcass. Consequently, when the butcher takes off a roast or steak or other cut, the grade will show in a harmless edible coloring.

The service is popular with public institutions, hotels, restaurants, food chains and other large-scale buyers of meat. They find that federal grading makes purchasing easier, more economical and satisfactory. Wholesalers and retailers in general find it advantageous to handle federally graded meat because they can be sure of the quality and can purchase it without personal examination.

The grades most often seen at the retail meat market are the U. S. Choice, U. S. Good, and U. S. Commercial grades. Distributors prefer to let the poorer grades sell as "just meat." People who do not know of the uniform federal grades might think the meat is of a better grade than it actually is.

Incidentally, the grade terms are not to be confused with the circular inspection stamp which shows only that the meat has been inspected and passed as wholesome food. The inspection stamp is required on all meat that is sold in interstate commerce...but it doesn't have a thing to do with the grade of the meat.

ON THE CALENDAR

Tuesday, November 28-Dec. 2
November 28-30
November 28

Chicago - International Livestock Exposition
Chicago - 4-H Club Congress
Indianapolis - Closing day of PMA meeting
on corn allotments; all corn states.

Wednesday, November 29-30
November 29

W. Lafayette - Purdue poultry breeding school.
Washington - Hearing on poultry and rabbit
grading.

November 29

Duluth, Minn. - Hearing on changes in milk
order.

Thursday, November 30

Toledo - Hearing on changes in milk order

Monday, December 4

Chicago - (Sherman Hotel) Hearing on combining
milk orders for Chicago and suburbs.

Monday, December 4

Coopersville, Mich. Hearing on new milk
order for western Michigan.

Monday, December 4

Chicago - State PMA committeemen of 12 states
meet on apple purchase program.

Tuesday, December 5-8

W. Lafayette - Annual Indiana Extension confer-
ence.
Detroit - Junior Livestock Show

December 5-7

Wednesday, December 6-8

Kansas City - International Crop Improvement
Association

Wednesday, December 6-7

Saginaw, Michigan Turkey Festival.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

M. J. Whalen, area records officer, is assisting Kansas City PMA Commodity office personnel in setting up a records depository for that office.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

Representatives of the Washington CCC office will meet with officials of all PMA Commodity offices at the Congress hotel in Chicago December 7, 8, and 9 to discuss management projects.

COTTON BRANCH

Cotton prices will be supported at 90 per cent of parity in 1951, Secretary Brannan announced on November 24. No acreage allotments or marketing quotas, since it is desired to increase cotton production as much as possible, in view of world shortage. Ninety per cent of parity is top of range permitted under Agricultural Act of 1949.

DAIRY BRANCH

Sales of butter to the trade, from CCC stocks acquired in 1949 and 1950 as part of price support, were heavy first three days of last week. Sales amounted to 5.6 million pounds, all to domestic outlets.

FATS AND OILS BRANCH

USDA has lifted controls from imports of several fats and oils: lard, edible and inedible tallow, oleo oil and stearine, palm oil, fatty acids, soap, and soap powder now are free of import controls. Controls remain on imports of butter, peanuts, peanut oil, peanut butter, soybeans and oil, sunflower seed and oil, cottonseed oil, flaxseed, flaxseed screenings, linseed oil, combinations and mixtures of animal and vegetable oils, lard compounds, rice and rice products.

* * *

CCC bought soybean oil during the week of November 13-17, for the first time since last May, for export to Austria under ECA program. Purchases totaled 8,723,000 pounds of crude oil and 1,904,000 pounds of refined oil.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION BRANCH

Oscar F. Beyer is at Columbus, Ohio this week to confer with Carl Graves, who heads the commodity distributing agency in that state.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE BRANCH

New regulations governing marketing of potatoes in North Dakota, Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, northern Indiana and northern Iowa, under Marketing Order 60, went into effect on Monday, November 27. June 30, 1951, is final date.

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FRUIT AND VEGETABLE BRANCH (Cont'd)

Civil Service Commission has announced examination for Agricultural Marketing Specialist on fruit and vegetable programs, G.S. 7-14, regulatory programs, Grades G.S. 7-9, and inspectors, Grades G.S. 7-11. Branch heads in Washington remind any employees not now having Civil Service status to file for these examinations.

Representatives of state FMA offices in Ohio, Illinois, Michigan, Missouri, Iowa, Indiana, Kentucky, Arkansas, Kansas, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Tennessee will confer with Branch representatives on an apple purchase program in Chicago, December 4. The meeting will be held at 610 South Canal Street. A representative of the apple industry in each state has been invited to attend.

* * *

R. E. Keller and Victor Ekstrom will attend the American Vegetable Growers Association meeting in Milwaukee, Wednesday.

* * *

Several more inspectors of processed products have been transferred to Texas to help with inspection work at citrus processing plants.

GRAIN BRANCH

Branch representatives are having a busy week lending their usual assistance to the International Grain and Hay Show.

Bradley T. Skeels and Richard W. Gallup of the General Field Headquarters Office, headed by Hazen P. English, assisted judges by making weights on all of the samples of small grain entered. Approximately 600 samples were involved.

Harry H. Whiteside, Chicago Market News, is judge of hay samples entered in the show.

H. A. Harlow and W. J. Morgan, of the Board of Grain Supervisors, examined all the samples of grain entered to determine that they were entered under the proper classification.

The Intercollegiate Crops Judging Contest is held in conjunction with the International Grain and Hay Show. Hugh Delaney of the Inspection Service's South Chicago branch office, prepared the grain samples and is acting as a judge in this part of the contest, assisted by Skeels and Gallup. Whiteside acts as judge of the scores made by the contestants on the hay samples. The cotton samples entered for stapling and grading were furnished by the Cotton Branch, Washington. They were prepared for exhibit by Delaney of the South Chicago Grain Branch office.

Grain Branch representatives have been assisting with the International Grain and Hay Show since its inception in 1920.

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GRAIN BRANCH (Cont'd)

Wheat made further price gains during the past week ended on Thursday, but other feed grains generally turned weaker. Wheat closed 1 to 2¢ higher, while rye declined about 2¢. Corn was off slightly, with little change in oats or barley. Grain sorghums were off 3-10¢ per hundred pounds, while soybeans advanced about 6¢.

* * *

Wheat agreement sales during the week of November 15-21 were 8,173,000 bushels. Principal buyers were Germany, Egypt, Israel, and Norway. Cumulative sales against '50-51 quotas are more than 75 million bushels, compared with 21 million a year ago.

LIVESTOCK BRANCH

Prices of slaughter steers, yearlings and heifers closed generally strong to 75¢ higher last week. Top on steers was \$36.75, paid for "sort-outs" from the International Livestock Show. Heifers topped at \$34.25 and mixed yearlings \$33.50. Hogs, which dropped to the lowest levels of the season early in the week, finished steady to 25¢ higher. Top was \$18.75. Slaughter lambs gained 50¢ to \$1.50, with the practical peak \$30.00. Some reached \$32.00 in the east cornbelt.

* * *

Meat production during the week ended November 18 was 369 million pounds, 9 per cent above preceding week, and 1 per cent over a year ago. Slaughter of all species increased.

POULTRY BRANCH

There will be no egg support program in 1951. Secretary Brannan made this announcement on November 22. If prices in certain areas get too low, and if outlets for the eggs are available, some purchases of shell eggs may be made to provide local price relief.

In his announcement, the Secretary pointed out that under Agricultural Act of 1949, price support on eggs is not mandatory but decision rests with the Secretary. Egg production in 1950 has increased by about the same number of eggs as CCC purchased in dried form. CCC has moved 60 million pounds of dried eggs, but production runs far ahead of consumption. Program already has resulted in loss of about \$60 million, with prospect of another \$85 million on dried eggs on hand or to be bought before end of 1950.

* * *

Chicago wholesale prices of most grades of eggs closed from 2-4¢ higher per dozen than a week earlier. Top grade eggs sold up to 65¢ per dozen.

Live poultry had an irregular tone on fairly heavy supplies for the holiday week. A surplus of specialty poultry for Thanksgiving sold at sharp price discounts, with roasters off 2¢ for the period.

* * *

Wisconsin Agricultural experiment station has issued a report on marketing of eggs in the Lake states, a study made jointly with USDA. Study shows producer gets about two-thirds of consumer's dollar in these states.

* * *

BAE reports egg production in October was at all time high, over 4 billion eggs for month, 6 per cent above last year and 37 per cent above average of last 10 years.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
Information Branch
623 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois

LIB
CURRENT

JUL 6 - 1951

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December 4, 1950 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

MIDWEST INFORMATION SUMMARY

TO: PMA Offices, Midwest Area

FROM: John C. Baker, Chief, Information Branch, Chicago, Illinois

THIS WEEK'S SPOTLIGHT

Dressed Poultry Inspection

Whenever the butcher "gives you the bird," make sure it is a Federally inspected one.

You will enjoy the turkey, chicken or rabbit much more, knowing it passed rigid inspection before gracing your table.

If you doubt it, spend a day with one of the federal inspectors who work under Dr. W. S. Buchanan. He is head of PMA's Dressed Poultry Inspection Office at Chicago, located at 610 South Canal Street.

Dr. Buchanan has inspectors - graduates from recognized veterinary colleges - inspecting poultry for condition and wholesomeness in processing plants located in Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Missouri, Arkansas, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi.

The service also has offices at San Francisco, Philadelphia and Omaha. Inspectors under these offices serve processing plants in other areas of the country.

Federal inspection of poultry isn't mandatory and any plant that wants the service must meet USDA specifications for sanitary conditions.

More and more processing plants are requesting Federal inspection all the time and regular service is now maintained in about 150 of them scattered over the country. In 1949, more than 212 million pounds of poultry were Federally inspected and the total for 1950 will be even larger.

Still, this doesn't take in all the poultry processed and sold in this country. Fortunately, quite a few cities and communities have set up ordinances requiring inspection for the protection of their own citizens. But there is quite a bit of poultry sold on the open market that is subject to little or no inspection of any kind.

The Federal inspection service is entirely self-supporting. It operates under cooperative agreement with the various state departments of agriculture and actual costs of the service are borne by the plants.

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Costs to the plant include the inspector's salary, plus certain additional amounts to cover administrative and supervisional expenses.

Just what do Dr. Buchanan's men do in processing plants that have Federal inspection?

They make a post-mortem inspection on every single bird, looking for anything that might disqualify it for human consumption. They require a type of operation in the plants which keeps the bird "individualized" to such an extent that it is not even permitted to come in contact with any other bird. This avoids any possibility of contamination. They also supervise the labelling, packaging, and processing of poultry products. And, of course, they are always concerned with the maintenance of proper sanitary conditions in the plant itself.

This "official" inspection, remember, is for wholesomeness and condition only. The circle stamp on poultry which denotes inspection is much like the purple inspection stamp on meat. As in the case of meat, however, it has nothing to do with the grade of the poultry. Poultry that is "officially" graded is examined for quality - quite another matter.

* * *

ON THE CALENDAR

Tuesday, Dec. 5-8	W. Lafayette - Indiana Extension conference
Dec. 5-7	Detroit - Junior Livestock Show
Dec. 6	Chicago - Hearing on milk prices in five Midwest markets
Wednesday, Dec. 6-8	Kansas City - International Crop Improvement Association
Dec. 6-7	Saginaw - Michigan Turkey Festival
Thursday, Dec. 7-9	Chicago - Area representatives PMA Commodity offices meet with CCC officials
Dec. 7-8	Urbana - University of Illinois Poultry Breeders School
Monday, Dec. 11-14	Chicago - PMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Dec. 11-13	Chicago - Illinois Dairy Products Assn.
Dec. 11	W. Lafayette - Indiana Dairy Association
Dec. 11	Cedar Rapids, Iowa - Hearing on Milk Marketing Order
Dec. 11-15	Chicago - National Egg Products Assn. School
Tuesday, Dec. 12-13	E. Grand Forks, Minn. Potato Marketing Clinic
Dec. 12-14	Grand Rapids - Western Michigan Fat Stock Show.
Dec. 12-13	E. Lansing - Michigan Crop Improvement Assn.
Dec. 12	St. Paul - Secretary Brannan addresses Grain Terminal Association
Dec. 12-14	Milwaukee - North Central Weed Control Conference
Dec. 12-14	Springfield - Illinois Horticultural Society
Wednesday, Dec. 13	Chicago - USDA Club - Secretary Brannan, speaker
Dec. 13	E. Lansing - Michigan Beekeepers Association

ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

PMA's annual conference will be held at the Congress Hotel in Chicago, next Monday through Thursday, December 11-14, with top officials from PMA in Washington, area offices, and state committeemen in attendance. Secretary Brannan will be speaker at the annual banquet on Wednesday evening; V. Stuart Symington, chairman of the National Security Resources Board, luncheon speaker Tuesday noon; R. C. Goodwin, director of Defense Manpower; C. J. McCormick, Under Secretary of Agriculture; H. B. McCoy, assistant administrator of National Production Authority are other principal speakers. Administrator Trigg will open the program on Monday morning and conclude it with a final summation Thursday noon.

Headquarters will be established on the mezzanine floor of the Congress Hotel - Telephone WE9-7010.

Special committees have been designated on three principal topics: Food, Feed, and Fiber Requirements, Harold K. Hill, chairman; Defense Organization and Manpower, Robert W. Herder, chairman; Materials and Facilities, Elmer F. Kruse, chairman.

OFFICE OF AUDIT

L. O. Lehman and P. J. Thomas will begin an audit this week of the Wisconsin State PMA Office and at three or more county PMA offices.

J. Specht has started audits this week in Michigan and New York under the Sour Cherry Program.

Physical inventories of grain stored in CCC bins are being taken in Wisconsin this week by R. G. Chaffin.

R. F. Pauley, Supervisor of Internal Audits, will be at Minneapolis this week in connection with audits of mills under the flaxseed program, and general review of internal audits of the Minneapolis PMA Commodity Office.

BAE

BAE reports prices received by farmers rose 8 points from mid-October to mid-November; prices paid up 2 points; parity ratio went up two points, to 105, highest in two years.

COTTON BRANCH

Spot prices of 1950-crop cotton remained above the 40 cent mark during the past week. Middling 15/16 inch averaged 42.49 cents per pound in the 10 spot markets, November 30. Farmers received an average of 41.13 cents per pound in mid-November, a new record high. The farm price was 128 percent of parity against 122 percent a month earlier and 94 percent a year ago. The mid-November parity price for cotton was 32.12 cents a pound compared with October parity of 31.87 and November 1949 parity of 29.64. Reported sales in the 10 spot markets totaled 247,000 bales compared with 253,000 last week and 331,000 a year ago.

DAIRY BRANCH

Proposals to hold milk prices at present levels until next March will be considered at joint public hearing on milk marketing orders for Chicago, suburban Chicago, South Bend-LaPorte, Milwaukee, and Rockford-Freesport. Hearing will be held Wednesday, December 6, Sherman Hotel, Chicago.

* * *

Hearing scheduled for December 4, on combining Chicago and suburban milk orders, has been postponed at request of dealers and manufacturers; probably will be held later in month.

* * *

First sales of roller and spray type nonfat dry milk solids from the limited supply offered to the trade under competitive bidding for use as animal feed were made during the week. About 5,700,000 pounds have been offered. This week's sales totaled 3,210,225 pounds. Sales prices ranged between 9 and 9.6 cents per pounds. These supplies, a part of the 676 million pounds purchased by CCC in 1949 and 1950, have fallen below Standard Grade in quality and are not salable as human food.

* * *

Three public hearings have been scheduled recently involving Federal milk marketing orders. A proposal for a new Federal order for the Cedar Rapids, Iowa milk marketing area will be considered at a hearing December 11 in Cedar Rapids. Hearings to consider proposed increases in minimum farm milk prices will be held in Oklahoma City, Okla., December 11 and in Tulsa, Okla., December 13.

* * *

Price Support Purchases and Sales, through November 25:

(Figures in Pounds)

<u>Product</u>	<u>Purchases Nov. 20-24</u>	<u>Total 1950 Purchases 1/</u>	<u>1949-50 Purchases Unsold as of Nov. 24</u>
Butter A	---	84,125,815	{ 130,600,000
Butter B	---	43,819,818	
Butter C	---	---	
Total	---	127,945,633	
Cheese	---	108,904,078	37,900,000
Spray milk solids	143,200	256,441,933	{ 258,000,000
Roller milk solids	---	94,296,985	
Total	143,200	350,738,918	

1/ Adjusted for Contract amendments

<u>Product</u>	<u>Sales to Trade Week End. Nov. 24</u>	<u>1950 Sales to Domestic Trade</u>
Butter A	3,669,989	26,726,463
Butter B	3,470,172	15,194,439
Butter C	307,200	2,825,025
Total	7,447,361	44,745,927

(more)

DAIRY BRANCH (Cont'd)

Product	Sales to Trade Wk. End. Nov. 24	1950 Sales to Domestic Trade
Cheese A	551,108	10,754,521
Cheese B	69,423	1,316,202
Cheese C	---	409,340
Total	<u>620,531</u>	<u>12,480,063</u>
Spray milk solids	1,236,250	6,901,493
Roller milk solids	694,393	11,270,949
Total	<u>1,930,643</u>	<u>18,172,442</u>
Animal Feed		
Spray milk	213,750	213,750
Roller milk	2,996,475	2,996,475
Total	<u>3,210,225</u>	<u>3,210,225</u>

Butter prices continued firm, with fresh supplies short of demand at terminal market centers. Prices held unchanged at Chicago and were also about steady at New York.

FATS AND OILS BRANCH

1950 Crop Peanut Program Operations:

During the week of November 17-23, 1950, CCC sold for crushing the following quantities of 1950 crop peanuts:

No. 2 Shelled ---	5,157,000 pounds
Farmers' Stock ---	4,547,000 pounds
	(total kernel content basis)

CCC Purchase Prices - 1950 Crop Peanuts:

Effective December 4, 1950 and until further notice, CCC announced that it will purchase excess (oil) farmers' stock peanuts and oil stock peanuts at prices ranging from 8.5 to 10.6¢ per pound, depending on area and type of peanut.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION BRANCH

Floyd Tuchscher will spend this week in Missouri conferring with Earl Langkop, state school lunch director, and planning a meeting with State PMA officials to discuss direct distribution activities. Ina Morris is in Cincinnati to spend the week conferring with the supervisor of the parochial school lunch program in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, and making some studies on costs of operation of some of the programs. She also will assist in planning workshops for parochial schools in the area.

* * *

FOOD DISTRIBUTION BRANCH (Cont'd)

USDA's Plentiful Foods "went to school" Monday -- to a cooking school sponsored by a large utility company. USDA Plentifuls were the stars of the school as they were used in preparation of a meal. Hal B. Bolin and Walter Patterson assisted with the program.

* * *

Plentiful pork will be featured on a TV show over KSTP-TV in Minneapolis, Thursday, December 7 as Hal Bolin demonstrates newer methods of cutting pork, and some of the pork is used in preparing food for the table.

* * *

Section 6 Purchase

Under the provisions of Section 6 of the National School Lunch Act 5,790,000 pounds of smoked pork shoulder picnics has been purchased. Distribution will be made to schools participating in the National School Lunch program.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE BRANCH

Purchase of 1950 crop Irish potatoes through November 28 totaled 17,272,543 hundredweight. Of this amount, 4,705,799 hundredweight went to livestock feed; 1,041,278 to Section 416; 1,583,784 to starch; 87,657 to flour; 41,055 to penal institutions; 4,199 to experimental use; 45,141 to storage; 91,450 to export; and 9,672,880 hundredweight to re-sale.

* * *

Final pre-storage purchase figures on sweet potatoes show 64,873 bushels purchased in Louisiana, 8,040 bushels in Georgia, and 500 bushels in Texas. All went to school lunch or institutional outlets.

* * *

Export subsidy programs through the week ending November 25, stood at:

Apples, 525,648 boxes; \$655,976
Pears, 330,802 boxes; \$413,502
Fresh oranges, 700 boxes; \$1,555
Fresh grapefruit, 40,370 boxes; \$40,370
Single strength orange juice, 15,000 cases No. 2's; \$15,750
Single strength blended juice, 4,000 cases No. 2's; \$4,000
Single strength grapefruit juice, 43,238 cases No. 2's; \$38,463
Honey, 10,246,128 pounds; \$461,075

* * *

Apple growers and FMA committeemen from six Midwest states met on December 4 with J. W. Stewart of Washington and R. E. Koller, Chicago, to discuss movement of apple supplies and possible need for an apple purchase program. Growers from Ohio, Michigan, and Wisconsin pointed to certain varieties and sizes as being sluggish and recommended a purchase program if possible.

Regulatory --

A. B. Harris left Monday to spend 10 days in Ohio investigating PACA complaints.

* * *

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FRUIT AND VEGETABLE BRANCH (Cont'd)

Regulatory --

PACA license of Charles Kellev, Kelley Fruit Company, Des Moines, Iowa, was suspended November 23, for failure to pay reparation of \$178.90 plus interest on watermelons purchased from E. E. Fadler Company of Kansas City, and Joe C. Donahoe, Floresville, Texas. License will be suspended until payment is made.

GRAIN BRANCH

Drexel D. Watson is the new director of the Grain Branch, effective December 1. He has been assistant to the director of the Commodity Office in Portland. He succeeds Leroy K. Smith who resigned September 1 to return to farming and private business.

Martin Schuler and W. R. Crispin of the Kansas City Branch Office served as judges of the commercial grading phase of the recent Collegiate Grain Judging Contest, sponsored by the Kansas City Board of Trade and Chamber of Commerce.

The Kansas City office prepared all of the samples used in the grading.

* * *

Heavy European demand for grain sorghums is reported, based upon favorable prices in relation to other grains. Grain sorghums exports may total 70-80 million bushels this marketing year, compared with earlier expectation of 50 million. Corn continues to disappear rapidly in our own country, with prospect that quantity fed to livestock in 1950-51 will set a new high record of about 3 billion bushels. Need is obvious for larger crop in 1951, if carryover is to be maintained around 500-600 million bushels.

* * *

Heavy CCC sales of flaxseed this week drew down CCC stocks, but CCC still holds big stocks of linseed oil. Linseed oil is cheaper than soybean oil; use of soybean as a drying oil substitute for linseed has practically ceased.

* * *

Grain markets were unsettled during the week ended on Thursday, influenced by the war situation in Korea. Cash wheat prices declined slightly at Minneapolis, Kansas City, and Portland. Corn and rye strengthened slightly, but oats and barley held about unchanged. Flaxseed advanced 10¢ per bushel, but soybeans declined 6 to 8¢ under a lighter demand from crushers.

At the close of the reporting week, number 2 hard winter wheat was quoted at \$2.27 per bushel at Chicago, \$2.19 to \$2.24 at Kansas City and \$2.41 at Fort Worth. Number 1 dark northern spring wheat brought \$2.20 to \$2.21-1/2 at Minneapolis. Number 2 yellow corn was quoted at \$1.63 at Chicago, \$1.50 to \$1.50-3/4 at Minneapolis and \$1.48 to \$1.51 at Kansas City. Number 2 white oats were quoted at Minneapolis at 85 to 87¢, Chicago 96¢ and Kansas City 91 to 97¢ per bushel. Number 2 malting barley was priced from \$1.59 to \$1.64 at Minneapolis, with Number 3 barley for feed from \$1.09 to \$1.14. Crushers in the Chicago area bid \$2.87-3/4 for Illinois soybeans delivered to Chicago by December 15.

LIVESTOCK BRANCH

Consumer grades for beef will be changed on December 29. Change involves splitting Commercial grade in two, with beef from mature animals still to be called Commercial; lean beef from young animals moves from Commercial to Good; old "Good" becomes "Choice"; old "Choice" and "Prime" will be combined, under name "Prime." Decision announced last week, after extensive investigation and public hearings. Change should have no effect on price, but should make grades more useful to consumers.

* * *

Prices for most kinds of cattle moved upward last week, as much as \$1.00 at Omaha and \$1.50 at Chicago. Top price on steers at Chicago was \$36.50. Some analysts predict \$40 when supply of best grades drops off. Stocker and feeder cattle prices closed steady to strong; top stock steer calves as high as \$39.

Hog prices were irregular, but generally 25 cents lower, with about one million hogs coming to principal markets; largest week of the marketing season. Believed bulk of spring pigs now have moved to market, and remainder of crop will be about same as last year. Market tops generally \$18 to \$18.50.

Woolled lambs were higher and shorn lambs lower. Market top was \$32 at Indianapolis for woolled lambs; similar grades of shorn lambs brought mostly \$28.50 downward.

POULTRY BRANCH

Dried whole egg purchases for price support purposes this week totaled 308,711 pounds but added only 20,727 pounds to net purchases for the year to date because of cancellations amounting to 287,984 pounds.

Net purchases for the year now stand at 82,732,189 pounds.

* * *

A two-day meeting of representatives of the poultry industry, State regulatory, sanitation and health organizations and national consumer groups, called to Washington by the Poultry Branch, was held this week to make proposals for changes in the present regulations concerning the inspection and grading of ready-to-cook poultry.

Unanimously made by the group, the proposals which would change present regulations to require official inspection of poultry for wholesomeness as a prerequisite to grading for quality, are:

1. That plans for joint Federal-State programs for the inspection with or without grading of ready-to-cook poultry be established and approved by USDA.
2. That such plans require that all joint Federal-State programs meet the standards of the USDA inspection and grading programs.

(more)

POULTRY BRANCH (Cont'd)

3. That lay inspectors, properly trained, governmentally employed and properly supervised by qualified veterinarians be utilized in the Federal and in the Federal-State inspection programs.
4. That ready-to-cook poultry shall not be graded for quality under these Federal or Federal-State programs unless such poultry has been previously inspected for wholesomeness.
5. That when the above requirements have been met poultry so produced may be labeled "U.S.-(State) Graded and Inspected for Wholesomeness" or "U.S.-(State) Inspected for Wholesomeness."

* * *

Closing wholesale prices of eggs at Chicago were from 1/2 to 4 cents per dozen higher than a week earlier. The most advance was on current receipts. Storage supplies were practically depleted and dealers were unable to supply the demand for shipment, although local needs were fairly well met.

Chicago trading in live poultry was light. Heavy type hens advanced 1/2 to 1 cent per pound, while chickens closed unchanged to 1 cent lower for the week.

SUGAR BRANCH

Recommendations for sugar quotas in 1951, ranging from a low of 7.4 million tons to a high of 8.7 million, were heard this week by Sugar Branch officials conducting the Department's annual hearing on sugar requirements under the Sugar Act of 1948. Domestic producers and processors were on the low side, foreign suppliers (Cuban) were a cut higher, industrial users were on the top side. The Department's determination will be announced in December.

The quota for 1950 now stands at 8.7 million tons, having been raised twice since the setting of 7.5 million tons last December. An addition of 350,000 tons was made in July, and a further increase of 850,000 in August. These actions followed sharply increased distribution of sugar last summer. Final quota for 1949 was 7.5 million tons.

Producers and processors at this week's hearing on 1951 quotas contended that a part of the consumption requirements in 1951 be obtained from increased inventories. The Department reported that during the twelve months ended October 31, 1950, primary distributors marketed 8,148,000 tons for consumption in continental United States. Total for comparable period of 1948-49 was 7,647,000 tons, and in 1947-48 it was 7,123,000 tons.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

Status of CCC as of October 31 was reported Monday by President Ralph Trigg. Total investment, \$2,898,405,000, including inventories of commodities worth \$2,026,041,000 and price support loans totaling \$872,364,000. Net loss July 1-October 31, \$63,670,000.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
Information Branch
623 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois

FOR ADMINISTRATIVE USE ONLY

December 11, 1950

MIDWEST INFORMATION SUMMARY

TO: PMA Offices, Midwest Area

FROM: Vincent P. Freymann, Acting Chief, Information Branch,
Chicago, Illinois

THIS WEEK'S SPOTLIGHT

Chicago Office of the Milk Market Administrator

Another member of PMA's family in Chicago is the Federal Milk Market Administrator, housed on the 14th floor of the Field Building. This office, under Administrator Andy W. Colebank, with a staff of 140 economists, accountants, statisticians and clerical employees, manages the milk marketing orders operative in Chicago, its suburbs, the Rockford-Freeport area, and Milwaukee.

Strictly speaking, Andy Colebank and his efficient staff direct the operation, for the benefit of farmers and consumers, of Milk Marketing Order No. 41 (Chicago, the North Shore suburbs through Glencoe and the "village" of Oak Park); M.O. No. 69, the "suburban" Chicago Order, which takes in the northern half of Lake County, Ind., Cook, DuPage, and Will County, and the Fox River Valley (Aurora through Elgin) Ill.; M.O. No. 91, Rockford-Freeport, Illinois; and M.O. No. 7, Milwaukee and adjacent areas.

The Milwaukee Order became effective November 1, 1950, and Mr. Colebank was appointed administrator. Currently, Herb Erdman is acting administrator, and is engaged in setting up a separate office in Milwaukee to administer this Order.

Enforcement of the regulations of the four milk marketing Orders takes the full time of all the PMA personnel in Andy Colebank's office. Few of us realize the complexities of modern milk marketing and the efficient distribution of milk in a huge industrial area and population center like Chicago and its environs. Milk from the dairy farmers as close as in Cook County--as far as 400 miles away in Wisconsin--from rural Illinois, Indiana and Michigan moves to consumers in Chicago and its suburbs through intricate channels of marketing and distribution.

(more)

It's so convenient to reach into your refrigerator for milk (a lot easier than coaxing it from a cow)! You take for granted that the milk is fresh and wholesome, and you never worry about the supply. The milk man will deliver more on schedule, at a fair price considering the service, convenience and quality of your milk. You should credit your Milk Marketing Order for much of this modern convenience--the ever certain supply, the quality and the fair prices. Why?

For brevity, let's look at just the Chicago and "Suburban" Milk Marketing Orders. On a daily average, more than 5 million pounds of milk (2,400,000) quarts) move into the Chicago and suburban marketing areas, fresh from farms in 4 states. It moves through local and regional dairies and creamers, through handlers and distributors, by city and rural delivery, to the teeming millions of Chicago and its metropolitan areas. This tremendous day-by-day marketing is under strict regulations established in, or coordinated with the Milk Marketing Orders which serve this area.

An equal quantity - 5 million pounds - also moves daily through the records of the marketing officer, diverted to production of butter, cheese, condensed or evaporated milk, dried milk, and other products.

The Federal Orders stabilize marketing conditions for fluid milk, and make the daily buying and selling of this huge quantity possible at orderly prices - prices on which dairy farmers, milk dealers and consumers alike can depend. To be eligible to distribute milk in the marketing areas, milk plants must have the approval of local health authorities. Quality and wholesomeness of the milk is assured for consumers by these local authorities. Personnel of the M.M.O. Administrator's office, make certain that the farmer is paid a fair price for the milk he delivers to the plants. The supply is assured because, under the Orders, every producer is certain of getting paid on the basis of an average price established by the M.M.O. office for all milk delivered in the areas.

The consumer price for fluid milk is not determined or regulated under the Order and is established by competitive conditions and consumer demand. Actually, milk handlers are the only persons regulated under the Milk Marketing Orders by the Chicago office. All handlers who purchase "approved" milk from dairy farmers to sell in the Chicago and "Suburban" order area, come under the local office. Dairy farmers are not controlled in any way. During 1949, an average of 23,442 dairy farmers supplied milk to the 76 plants delivering^{milk} in Chicago and the suburbs.

To assure farmers fair prices, and to determine the basic average price of milk delivered to the Chicago "Pool", takes a lot of accounting, statistics, tabulating, laboratory tests, printing, and even some "policing". Heading the various departments under Andy Colebank, are:

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Jesse Cook, Order Attorney; H. Ralph Hitchner, director of accounting; William Peterson, internal audit; G.E. Dickson, marketing services (weight checks, tests, and audit verification of farmer milk deliveries; Wilson M. Haverfield, pool calculation, audit review, and statistical data. In the marketing services division, J. H. Kramer directs the Field audit staff which polices the order. Producer payrolls are made out by Gordon Reading's payroll division. The efficient, modern printing office is managed by Joe Sheahin.

* * *

ON THE CALENDAR

Monday, December 11-14	Chicago - PMA annual national Conference (Congress Hotel)
11-15	Chicago - National Egg Products Assn. school
Tuesday, December 12-13	E. Grand Forks, Minn. - Potato Marketing Clinic. Assn.
12-13	E. Lansing - Mich. Crop Improvement/
12-14	Grand Rapids - Western Michigan Fat Stock Show
12-14	Springfield- Ill. Horticultural Soc'ty.
12-14	Milwaukee- North Central Weed Control Conference
12	St. Paul - Secretaries Brannan, Acheson address Grain Terminal Association
Wednesday, December 13	Chicago - USDA Club, Secretary Brannan speaker.
13	E. Lansing - Michigan Beekeepers Assn.
Tuesday, December 19	E. St. Louis - Ill. Vegetable Growers Association
Wednesday, December 20	Referendum on marketing quotas for cigar filler and binder tobacco.

PMA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

U.S. farmers will take a keen interest in press and radio reports of the National PMA conference at the Congress Hotel this week-- December 11-14.

In attendance are more than 400 delegates representing state PMA-farmer committees and USDA and PMA officials directing operations of the Agency's nationwide Production and Marketing programs. The delegates will hear addresses by the leaders of the nation's Defense Program and the discussions and speeches will be, for the most part, in line with the theme of the conference -- "National Defense." And PMA's 1951 programs will take form as delegates make recommendations to the Agency's policy makers!

The list of speakers outlining national programs to PMA's front-line Production and Marketing leaders, is headed by Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan and W. Stuart Symington, Chairman, National Security Resources Board. Other speakers will include H.B. McCoy, Assistant Administrator, National Production Authority; Lt. Col. Wes McPheron, Department of Defense; Clarence J. McCormick, Under Secretary of Agriculture; Ralph S. Trigg, Administrator of PMA; Frank K. Wooley, Deputy Administrator; Elmer F. Kruse, Manager of CCC; Dr. Seymour Harris, member Advisory Board, CCC; Robert C. Goodwin, Executive Director, Office of Defense Manpower; Robert W. Herder, and others prominent in agriculture and industry in the nation.

Contrary to other post-war PMA national conferences, emphasis of the current meeting is "National Defense." In the opening address of the conference, Ralph S. Trigg, PMA's Administrator, pointed out that the Agency has been assigned the basic food and agricultural responsibilities under the "Defense Production Act." "This means that PMA must carry out essentially the same types of special programs which were handled by the War Food Administration during the last war," Trigg stated.

The present situation is extremely critical in Mr. Trigg's opinion, and even if it grows no worse, we are committed to many measures which will strengthen our over all defenses. The defense effort has an "over-riding priority now and we must concentrate on helping agriculture make its greatest possible contribution to the strength our country will need to win in this period of crisis..... PMA was a tested agency and was a going concern when the current emergency developed..... When the final record is written, let it show that the Production and Marketing Administration has met its responsibilities faithfully and well."

The Defense Production Act "gives farmers effective protection"..... and price ceilings obviously could not lower present farm prices. But USDA still hopes that abundant production will make it possible to avoid such controls as food orders and price ceilings", Administrator Trigg said. His address to farmer-committeemen indicates PMA will establish high 1951 production goals, to assure an abundance of farm products to meet any emergency.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

Commodities for sale by CCC for export during December include dried whole eggs, nonfat dry milk solids, raw linseed oil, flaxseed, dry edible beans, dry edible peas, Austrian winter pea seed, wheat, oats, barley, corn, grain sorghums, potato starch, fresh Irish potatoes, and gum rosin.

Those available to buyers for domestic sale are nonfat dry milk solids, American cheese, salted creamery butter, dried whole eggs, raw linseed oil, flaxseed, dry edible beans, dry edible peas, Austrian winter pea seed, Blue Lupine seed, Kobe Lespedeza seed, Weeping Lovegrass seed, wheat, oats, barley, corn, grain sorghums, potato starch, and gum rosin.

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE AND INVESTIGATION

A fine of \$50 was imposed on Charles Reed, Plateville, Colo., following his plea of guilty to an information charging violations of regulation covering the handling of Irish potatoes grown in the State of Colorado.

A civil complaint was filed in the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan against James E. Morrison, Jr., Grawn, Mich., seeking to recover \$556.02, with interest, and costs of the action from the defendant on a defaulted 1946 potato loan.

COTTON BRANCH

Export licenses have been granted on 1,823,054 bales as of December 6. This is out of a total of 2,896,000 bales currently allocated for export on a country-by-country basis. An additional 140,000 to 150,000 bales are expected to be licensed prior to December 11.

Prices for Middling 15/16 inch cotton averaged 42.13 cents per pound in the 10 spot markets Thursday, December 7. This compares with 42.49 a week earlier and 30.11 a year ago. Reported sales in the 10 spot markets totaled 179,000 bales compared with 247,000 bales last week and 373,000 in the corresponding week a year ago.

Export allocations for both hard and soft cotton wastes have been established in a joint action by U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Department of Commerce. The action was taken under the Defense Production Act of 1950 to conserve essential domestic stocks of these cotton products, and follows prior similar action with respect to cotton exports from the United States.

DAIRY BRANCH

Arrangements for the sale of 4 million pounds of Government-owned cheddar cheese to the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund for use chiefly in school lunch and child feeding programs were completed last week.

Official standards for grades of cheddar cheese also were issued during the week, replacing the tentative standards in effect since 1943.

In another action cheese was removed from the list of "Section 416" commodities which have been offered for donation to welfare agencies for the assistance of needy persons both inside and outside the United States.

Two actions with respect to the operation of Federal orders in the Chicago area were announced. The public hearing called for December 4 in Chicago to consider merging the two Chicago Federal orders (Chicago and Suburban Chicago) was postponed to a later date. Meanwhile, a joint public hearing for December 6 in Chicago was called to consider holding minimum farm milk prices at current levels through March 1951 in the milk marketing areas of Chicago, Suburban Chicago, South Bend-LaPorte, Ind., Milwaukee, Wis., and Rockford-Freeport, Ill.

Price Support Purchases and Sales, through December 2:

(Figures in Pounds)

Product	Purchases		Total 1950	
	Nov. 27-Dec. 1		Purchases 1/	1949-50 Purchases Unsold as of Dec. 1
Butter A	---		84,125,815	{ 118,800,000
Butter B	---		43,819,818	
Butter C	---		---	
Total			127,945,633	
Cheese			108,904,077	31,400,000
Spray milk solids	229,975		256,671,908	
Roller milk solids	---		94,296,984	{ 232,000,000
Total	229,975		350,968,892	

Product	Sales to Trade Week End, Dec. 2		1950 Sales to Domestic Trade	
Butter A	6,393,612		33,225,101	
Butter B	4,313,040		19,549,796	
Butter C	332,635		3,170,320	
Total	11,039,287		55,945,217	
Cheese A	1,205,566		11,962,160	
Cheese B	63,669		1,368,018	
Cheese C	---		409,340	
Total	1,269,235		13,739,518	
Spray milk solids	1,647,309		8,548,802	
Roller milk solids	1,426,897		12,701,766	
Total	3,074,206		21,250,568	
	(more)			

DAIRY BRANCH (Cont'd)

<u>Animal Feed</u>	<u>Sales to Trade</u> <u>Wk. End. December 2</u>	<u>1950 Sales to</u> <u>Domestic Trade</u>
Spray	50,625	264,375
Roller	443,860	3,440,335
Total	494,485	3,704,710

1/ Adjusted for Contract Amendments.

FATS AND OILS BRANCH

Cottonseed Program:

Final report of CCC sales of cottonseed oil acquired in connection with the 1949 cottonseed price support program shows total sales of approximately 198.4 million pounds, including about 151.4 million pounds of crude oil and about 47.0 million pounds of refined oil. Of the crude total, almost 39.3 million pounds were sold for export. Actual figures are as follows:

<u>Sales of Crude</u> (pounds)	<u>Sales of Refined</u> (pounds)	<u>Total Sales</u> (pounds)
<u>1/</u> 151,374,209	47,002,952	198,377,161

1/ Includes 39,283,720 pounds for export.

Flaxseed and Resultant Linseed oil - 1949 Program, Final Report:

Final figures on CCC operations under the 1949 crop flaxseed and resultant linseed oil program are as follows:

Sales of flaxseed ----- 13,294,818 bushels
Purchases of Resultant linseed oil ----- 269,581,199 pounds

Linseed Oil:

CCC sales of linseed oil during the period November 30-December 6, 1950, totaled about 541 thousand pounds, of which about 389 thousand were for export and the remainder for domestic use.

On December 5, linseed oil, Minneapolis and Chicago, was quoted at 16.0 cents per pound, tankcars, an increase of 0.2 cents per pound since November 28.

CCC Purchase Prices - 1950 Crop Peanuts:

Effective December 11, 1950, and until further notice, CCC announced that it will purchase excess (oil) farmers' stock peanuts and oil-stock peanuts at the following prices:

(more)

FATS AND OILS BRANCH (Cont'd)

Oil Stock Peanuts:

Virginia-Carolina Area	-- 8.2 cents per lb.
Southeastern Area)	-- 9.2 cents per lb.
Southwestern Area)	-- 9.3 cents per lb.

Excess (oil) Farmers' Stock Peanuts:

Virginia-Carolina Area	- Virginia Runners, Spanish and Valencias, 9.8 cents per lb. of kernels
Southeastern Area -	S.E. Spanish, 9.8 cents per lb. of kernels; Virginia and Runners, 10.1 cents per lb. of kernels
Southwestern Area -	Spanish and Valencias, 10.5 cents per lb. of kernels

1950 Crop Peanut Program Operations:

During the period November 24-30, 1950, CCC sold for crushing the following quantities of 1950 crop peanuts:

No.2 Shelled	----- 9,742,000 pounds
Farmers' Stock	---- 836,000 pounds (total kernel content basis)

Clifford H. Keirstead, agricultural economist, is spending this week in Indiana, Illinois, and Ohio on research work. Charles D. Jackson will visit Iowa and Illinois for the same purpose this week, while Morris W. Sills, also an agricultural economist, will be in Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION BRANCH

Cheese off 416:

As of December 1, the Commodity Credit Corporation removed natural cheese from the list of commodities available for donation under Section 416 of the Agricultural Act of 1949, and Area offices of the FDB were instructed to accept no orders for cheese beyond those on hand at the close of business on that date. The action was taken because of the gradually decreasing inventories in the hands of the Commodity Credit Corporation resulting from orders placed by State distributing agencies and private welfare agencies assisting needy persons outside the United States, sales in domestic trade channels, and the movement of cheese into export programs. Late November data indicate that since cheese first became available under Section 416 in mid-April, approximately 18,500,000 pounds of this item in CCC stocks have been ordered and distributed on a freight-collect basis to nonprofit school lunch programs, charitable institutions, and welfare families, and over 7,100,000 pounds have been distributed to private welfare agencies assisting needy persons outside the United States.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION BRANCH -(Cont'd)

Commodities that continue available under Section 416 are potatoes, nonfat dry milk solids, butter, and dried eggs.

* * *

Mrs. Berta Olsen, of the Washington office, and Hal B. Bolin, Chicago, are spending this week in Minnesota studying food preservation work there. Mrs. Olsen will spend several days in the Chicago office next week.

Cecile Tollefson is in Lincoln, Nebraska this week to make an administrative review of school lunch operations in that state. Jeanette Hampton, of the St. Louis office, also will spend this week in Lincoln reviewing school lunch program operations.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE BRANCH

Purchase of 1950 crop potatoes through December 5 totaled 18,044,115 hundredweight. Of this amount 4,901,753 hundredweight went to livestock feed; 1,147,938 to Section 416; 1,803,269 to starch; 94,104 to flour; 44,075 to penal institutions; 4,199 to experimental use; 45,141 to storage; 90,200 to export; and 9,913,436 to re-sale.

Purchase of fresh apples through the week ending December 2 were 11,760 bushels.

Through the week ended December 2 export subsidy programs stood at: Apples, 662,316 boxes, \$824,132; Pears, 340,672 boxes, \$425,840; Fresh oranges, 21,146 boxes, \$34,891; Fresh grapefruit, 43,415 boxes, \$43,415; Single strength orange juice, 1,600 cases of No. 2's, \$17,430; Single strength grapefruit juice, 37,488 cases of No. 2's, \$33,288; Single strength blended juice, 4,600 cases of No. 2's, \$4,600; Honey, 10,328,628 pounds, \$464,788.

* * *

Market News

Willard F. Hines, formerly of the Los Angeles market news office, has taken charge of the Cincinnati market news office. John J. Gardner, Jr., who has been in charge at Cincinnati, is transferring to the Regulatory Division.

GRAIN BRANCH

Acreage allotments for rice in 1951 have been increased by about 15 percent over 1950, totaling 1,867,998 acres. Acting Secretary McCormick said increase is made to take care of expected high level of consumption at home and export demands. Total supply of rice for 1950-51 estimated at just over 42 million cwt., and carry-over into next season estimated at 2.3 cwt. Production of 40 million cwt. will be required in 1951 to bring supply-up to "normal", and allotted acres should produce this amount if yields are average.

During the period November 22 to November 28, 1950, inclusive, the Commodity Credit Corporation confirmed sales of 10,255,000 bushels of wheat (including wheat and wheat flour in wheat equivalent) under the International Wheat Agreement against 1950-51 Wheat Agreement quotas. The sales included 360,000 hundredweight of flour (834,000 bushels of wheat equivalent) and 9,421,000 bushels of wheat. Principal buyers were Greece, Mexico, Brazil, Belgium and Egypt. Cumulative sales to November 21 against 1950-51 quotas are 85,586,000 bushels. This compares with cumulative sales at this time last year of about 23,000,000 bushels.

LIVESTOCK BRANCH

Production and Marketing Administration has announced details of the program to buy about 30 million pounds of raw wool, clean basis, for the Department of the Army. The announcement sets out the types and grades of Australian, New Zealand, South American, and Cape wools to be purchased. Delivery of wools purchased must be at the Army Base Warehouse at Boston.

Meat production under Federal inspection during the week ended December 2 was 419 million pounds. Production was 5 percent above the 398 million pound output recorded for the same week last year.

An additional quantity of smoked pork shoulder picnics will be purchased for distribution to schools under the National School Lunch Program. Previously, approximately 5,800,000 pounds of smoked pork shoulders were purchased for the program.

POULTRY BRANCH

Last week was the first so far this year with no purchases of dried whole eggs under USDA's support program, but cancellations of deliveries amounted to 208,231 pounds. This situation reflects clearly the unusual strength in the egg market resulting from (1) the lowest cold storage holdings of eggs since February 1940, (2) seasonally low production, (3) storm conditions in some areas, and (4) heavy demand together with light supplies at major markets.

(more)

POULTRY BRANCH (Cont'd)

Total purchases of dried whole eggs for the year so far now stand at 82,523,958 pounds, with only three offer dates remaining under the 1950 program.

Sales of dried eggs under the export program amounted to 80,070 pounds at 30 cents a pound f.a.s. New York, bringing total export sales up to 6,563,221 pounds.

(*) Egg Consumption Program

(*) Members of the Consumer Relations Subcommittee of the Department's Poultry Committee met last week to discuss the feasibility of a consumer campaign on eggs in conjunction with industry activities along this line. Industry plans call for an "Egg for Breakfast" campaign and USDA assistance has been requested.

(*) The subcommittee moved that industry be assisted in the drive "to the extent feasible on the basis of price developments" in eggs later on. No specific plan of action was suggested for the present time.

(*) Contents of starred paragraphs should not be used in statements to trade or press.

* * *

Frank J. Santo, Des Moines, regional supervisor of the Dairy and Poultry Inspection and Grading Division, and W.W. Wheeler, of the Minneapolis office, judged entries at the 21st annual Northern States Turkey Show at Alexandria, Minnesota, November 27-December 1. Santo spoke at that meeting on grading turkeys, and also addressed the Kansas Poultry Exposition at Emporia, Kansas last week on processing poultry under U.S. regulations.

SUGAR BRANCH

Arrangements are being made to start an experimental market news service on cane blackstrap molasses and beet molasses. It will be conducted cooperatively by the Production and Marketing Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Louisiana State Market Commission under provisions of the Research and Marketing Act. Headquarters will be at the Federal-State market news office at Baton Rouge. Plans call for a weekly report beginning about mid-December.

TRANSPORTATION AND WAREHOUSING BRANCH

E.A. Levi and M.L. Reddick are in Kansas City, Missouri this week to continue a survey of PMA Commodity Office transportation activities in connection with recommendations contained in GAO audit reports. F.D. Butcher is in Indianapolis and A.L. Cumming in Chicago making routine field supervisory trips relative to grain storage facilities program. C.G. Pulvermacher and Wray Simmons are spending Monday and Tuesday in Chicago in connection with work status reports of the Commodity Office.

J.L. Pease will attend public hearings in Chicago Thursday and Friday in connection with freight rates on canned goods and charges made for transit privileges on canned goods and other commodities.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
MIDWEST AREA, OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES
623 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois

For Administrative Use

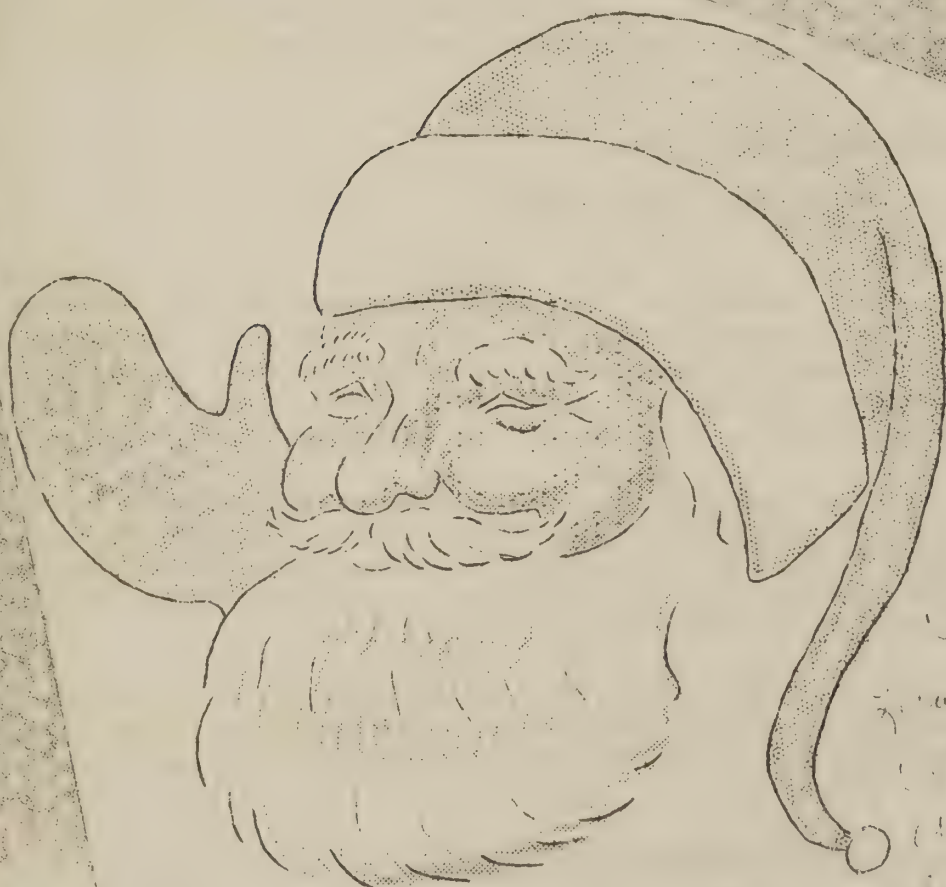
December 18, 1950

MIDWEST INFORMATION SUMMARY

To: PMA Offices, Midwest Area

From: John C. Baker, Chief, Midwest Area, Office of Information Services

THIS WEEK'S SPOTLIGHT



John Baker
John Bennett
John Bennett
John Bennett
John Bennett

John C. Baker
John C. Baker
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John C. Baker
John C. Baker

PMA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Gearing agriculture to the needs of national defense was the theme of PMA's 1950 National Conference, held in Chicago last week, December 11-14. Discussions during the three and a half days of the meeting proved to be preparation for the national emergency proclamation of the President on Friday night, December 15.

The current mobilization, inevitably, was compared with that during World War II, and it generally was agreed that further increases in agricultural production will be more difficult than 10 years ago, because the nation's agriculture starts at a higher level. Increases will be asked for in many lines of agriculture, in the face of shortages of labor, fertilizer, and most of the modern pesticides. Farm equipment generally is plentiful, and may not be a serious shortage for another year or more.

On the favorable side, is the fact that agriculture is represented more at the conference tables in Washington where manpower and materials are allocated to the various segments of the national economy. This is in contrast to the situation in World War II, when agriculture's needs were not adequately represented during the first two years of the war effort.

Excerpts from Major Talks

Ralph S. Trigg, PMA Administrator

Powerful forces are moving in the world. We do not yet know the full extent of the emergency; it is perfectly clear however that the present situation is extremely critical. Without giving up long-range objectives, we must concentrate on helping agriculture make its greatest possible contribution. We have the organization and the staff to take care of emergency programs. We are ready to discharge our new responsibilities.

Our most immediate job is to help farmers secure abundant production of the right commodities. Adequate supplies also are the best defense against inflation and minimizing or postponing the need for controls. It seems obvious that, under present legislation, price ceilings could not lower the present level of farm prices.

Fate has given our country the leadership of that part of the world which believes in the rights and dignity of the individual, and is prepared to fight for this if necessary. We cannot and will not turn back from the road we have taken.

Frank K. Woolley, Deputy Administrator

The situation with respect to agriculture today is, generally speaking, quite good. Some of the comparisons with 1941 are quite favorable; others are distinctly unfavorable.

(continued)

Frank Woolley (continued)

We have nowhere the slack in our economy that we had in 1941. Manpower reserves that existed in 1941 do not exist today. We have less workstock. In 1941 we had 1.8 million tractors and now we have 2.5 million. We are using twice as much fertilizer as in 1941. Insecticide use this year was the highest on record. There will be a reduction in synthetic insecticides available, due to the demands of the military.

We have a better legislative basis for coping with this emergency than we had in 1941. Another favorable factor is the over-all good condition of the farm plant. Fertility has been put back into the soil; buildings have been repaired, worn out machinery has been replaced.

Charles F. Brannan, Secretary of Agriculture

In an address last month, a farm leader said: "I am convinced that agriculture would not be seriously damaged by suspension of practically all government farm program activities and expenditures."

That statement is hopelessly unrealistic. If abundant production is as important to the defense effort and to the functioning of our entire economy as we think it is, then obviously we must make sure that American farmers have the programs they need to play their full part in these critical times. Does anybody seriously believe that we ought to take our programs of price protection, conservation, credit, electrification, and our other services and set them aside for the duration. Our agricultural programs serve the whole nation. To talk of suspending our programs in such a period as this because farm income is at or above parity is as nonsensical as to talk of disbanding our fire departments because for a week or two there have been no fires.

Clarence J. McCormick, Under Secretary of Agriculture

On the basis of practical experience, we know that communism makes little progress among owners of farms, homes, or other property. I think it is undeniable that if we lost our family farm system to any substantial extent, and if large numbers of people became peasants on the land, we would immediately see the rise of communism as a serious threat within our own borders. The love of freedom starts at home on the family farm. That love of freedom is the real backbone of democracy.

Secretary Brannan has called for an intensified program on the part of the Department to strengthen the position of our family farms. Our job is to examine the functions and operations of the various agencies and programs. We want to improve the services that these agencies render to the family farms.

We hope to complete this study of the Department's agencies by April 1. Our next step will be to send proposals and suggestions to the various state offices, and to the counties. We are aiming at September 1, 1951, as the deadline for returns from the counties and states. We will then correlate all state recommendations into a national program.

If we are to teach democracy in other countries, we must set the best possible example in our own country.

H. B. McCoy, Assistant Administrator, National Production Authority

Our situation in 1950 is far different than in 1940-42 when we undertook a similar defense program. In the past four years we have had practically full employment; national income has reached the highest levels ever; our standard of living has advanced faster than in any comparable period in our history. It is obvious that imposing a large defense production program on an industrial system already operating at peak levels would result in immediate and, in some cases, severe dislocation to ordinary industrial production and distribution.

NPA's basic philosophy: Production must be maintained and expanded, with the expansion directed to the kind of products needed to build up our military strength. Defense requirements must be provided with materials and facilities to meet promptly all production schedules. So far as possible the adverse impact of defense production on other industrial production should be minimized. NPA is undertaking a materials conservation program, by controlling specifications curtailing the quantity of materials used in certain applications, and prohibiting the use of materials in some products where less scarce materials are available as substitutes. Some lines of business may be forced out entirely if the emergency becomes more critical.

Seymour E. Harris, Economist, Harvard University

World War III will be different from World War II, because we start the current mobilization from a high level of output and very little unemployment. Our war resources will come primarily at the expense of current consumption and investment. If we should need \$125 billion of war materials roughly the equivalent of 1944 effort, we would have to cut investment drastically and reduce civilian consumption close to one-half.

This great pressure on an economy already over-employed will tend to raise prices. If the supply of consumption goods available in 1951 at current prices is to be \$150 billion (\$190 billion today) and personal incomes are to be \$250 billion (\$210 billion today) then personal savings and taxation must equal \$100 billion in order to prevent inflation. That means a substantial rise of both personal savings and taxation above current levels, for they are only about \$30 billion now.

Robert C. Goodwin, Director, Office of Defense Manpower

Our population has grown by almost 20 million since 1940, but there are fewer people between 10 and 19 years of age, and no more men and women in the range 20-24 years than there were 10 years ago. As we plan for expanded defense production, we are building on a high level civilian economy that at last year's peak furnished employment to more than 62 million persons.

Currently we have a total labor force of 65,400,000 including armed services; this could be expanded by five million in the event of total mobilization, through recruitment of women, physically handicapped, and young people. A total labor force of at least 68 million next summer is a probable figure.

(continued)

Robert C. Goodwin (continued)

Agriculture is always first to feel the effects of a manpower shortage. The agricultural labor market in 1951 will be tight, and barring unforeseen developments, it will become progressively tighter in succeeding years.

Ways in which employers can reduce turnover, and increase their use of available workers are: cooperating with the local employment service to recruit thoroughly in the local areas; close scheduling of labor needs, so workers may be passed on to other areas when no longer needed; providing satisfactory housing; providing adequate transportation; encouraging community help in child care, education, health, education, medical facilities, and recreation.

* * * *

Behind the scenes of the conference, handling the myriad details of registration, transportation, duplicating, etc., was a staff of Chicago PMA people, headed by Richard Bender, Chief of Administrative Services, aided by Maurice Ward, Chief of Personnel, and Royce Dodge, Chief of Procurement. The working party included: Lola Barrett, George Blaze, John Bomba, Charles Carrington, Lee Dobyne, Edward Figura, Madelyn Shaughnessy, Mrs. W. A. Hilgeson, Ann Dykstra, Minnie LePore, Irene Schiller, Margaret Mason, Catherine M. Keefe, Dorothy Meyer, Lucille Minigai, Mary Murray, Muriel Palmer, Elaine Pauley, Emily Rankin, William Reed, Charlotte Sargis, Jeanette Schaffer, LaVerne Emonds, Ingá Stood, Opal Whaley, Margaret Lee, Florian Reducha, John Campbell, Earl W. Manthey.

COTTON BRANCH

Exports from the United States were 284,000 bales during October, bringing the total for the first quarter of the 1950-51 season to 1,012,000 bales. This compares with 794,000 bales exported in the first three months of the 1949-50 season.

Prices for Middling 15/16 inch cotton averaged 42.38 cents per pound in the 10 spot markets on Thursday, December 14, up slightly from last week's 42.13 and considerably above last year's 30.17.

Sales totaled 167,000 bales compared with 179,600 bales last week and 315,000 in the corresponding week a year ago.

Export licenses had been issued for about 1,909,000 bales of cotton as of December 12. This is about two-thirds of the 2,896,000 bales allocated for export to specific countries during the period through March 31, 1951.

The 1950-51 world cotton crop will approximate 27.3 million bales, according to the International Cotton Advisory Committee. The world carry-over at the beginning of the current season was 16.3 million bales. Thus the indicated world supply for 1950-51 is 43.7 million bales. This compares with the 1949-50 supply of 45.9 million and the 1948-49 supply of 43.7.

DAIRY BRANCH

Sales of government-owned cheese to the trade were discontinued last Tuesday. Stocks remaining after completion of delivery on prior sales will be sold for export to Great Britain. Purchases of cheese for price support totaled about 109 million pounds during 1950, and the Department's inventory reached a high point of 106-1/2 million pounds in early September. Before sales to the trade were discontinued, the latest inventory figure stood at 27-1/2 million pounds. This figure will be reduced by deliveries still underway on prior sales, and the sale of the remaining supplies to Britain will close out the Department's inventory.

Extension to June 30, 1951, of the time allowed to interested parties for filing their views and comments on proposed U. S. standards for grades of milk used in the manufacture of dairy products was announced during the week.

Public hearings have been scheduled for Cleveland on December 27 and Louisville on December 18 to consider proposals for changing the farm pricing of milk.

Price Support Purchases and Sales, through December 8:

(Figures in Pounds)

<u>Product</u>	<u>Purchases</u> <u>Dec. 4-8</u>	<u>Total 1950</u> <u>Purchases 1/</u>	<u>1949-50 Purchases</u> <u>Unsold as of Dec. 8</u>
Butter A		84,125,815	
Butter B		43,819,818	101,500,000
Butter C		---	
		<u>127,945,633</u>	
Cheese		108,904,077	27,500,000
Spray milk solids	204,075	256,875,983	
Roller milk solids	--	94,296,984	224,200,000
	<u>204,075</u>	<u>351,172,967</u>	

1/ Adjusted for Contract amendments

<u>Product</u>	<u>Sales to Trade Wk. End. Dec. 8</u>	<u>1950 Sales to Domestic Trade</u>
Butter A	4,921,668	38,144,373
Butter B	6,536,862	26,089,497
Butter C	941,823	4,112,144
	<u>12,400,353</u>	<u>68,346,014</u>
Cheese A	2,410,221	14,372,381
Cheese B	80,819	1,448,837
Cheese C	6,582	415,922
	<u>2,497,622</u>	<u>16,237,140</u>
Spray milk solids	1,185,000	9,693,527
Roller milk solids	901,650	13,603,016
	<u>2,086,650</u>	<u>23,296,543</u>
<u>Animal Feed</u>		
Spray	594,475	858,850
Roller	2,081,875	5,522,210
	<u>2,676,350</u>	<u>6,381,060</u>

DAIRY BRANCH (Continued)

Butter had a firm tone at major markets, with prices fractionally higher for the week. Top grade, 93 score butter sold up to 66-3/4¢ per pound.

FATS AND OILS BRANCH

Fats and Oils Market Prices:

The fats and oils markets have been fairly steady during the past week.

Soybeans, Chicago, have been hovering around the \$2.95 mark.

Crude cottonseed oil slumped slightly during the end of last week, but recovered and sales in the Mississippi Valley were reported at over the 21-cent mark.

Soybean oil remains quite firm with good demand for domestic and export.

Linseed oil had a spectacular rise in the past week - the Minneapolis price is over 18 cents. No. 1 flaxseed, Minneapolis, was quoted at \$4 per bushel on December 12, up 25 cents from the \$3.75 level on December 7.

Inedible tallow and greases are still very firm with fancy tallow at around 15-1/2 cents Chicago basis; some of the larger soapers are buying lard.

Peanut Marketing Quota Referendum

On the basis of incomplete but conclusive returns, farmers voted in favor of marketing quotas for the 1951, 1952, and 1953 crops. Unofficial reports from all major peanut-producing States show 70.8 percent in favor of quotas. However, only three major States - Georgia, North Carolina, and Texas - had as much as a two-thirds favorable vote.

Sales of Linseed Oil:

CCC sales of linseed oil during the period December 7-13, 1950, were as follows:

Total Sales.....	432,000 pounds
For Export.....	312,000 pounds
For Domestic Use.....	120,000 pounds

Effective December 18, 1950, and until further notice, CCC announced that it will purchase oil stock peanuts and excess (oil) farmers stock peanuts of the 1950 crop at prices ranging from 8.2 to 10.6 cents.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION BRANCH

Plentiful Foods for the month of January are as follows: potatoes, onions, sauerkraut, pork, fish, oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, broilers, cottage cheese, peanut butter, honey, cranberries.

* * *

This week under authorization of Section 6 of the National School Lunch Act, the Branch purchased 2,600,000 pounds of "smoked shoulder picnics". This is in addition to the previously announced purchase of 5,790,000 pounds. A third purchase announcement was made December 15.

The Branch also purchased last week 558,000 gallons of concentrated orange juice in Florida (3-to-1 concentrate). This completes the orange juice purchases. Purchases now total over a million gallons of concentrate.

These foods will be distributed only to schools participating in the Program.

* * *

Floyd Tuchscher is in Minnesota this week to work with Jeanette Hampton, of the St. Louis office, on school ^{lunch} and direct distribution program reviews in that state. Roland Cervený is visiting welfare distribution centers in Chicago this week. Floyd Tuchscher and Ina Morris participated in a school lunch workshop for private and parochial schools at Milwaukee Friday; it was attended by about 50 school lunch personnel from Milwaukee County.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE BRANCH

Purchase of 1950 crop potatoes through December 12 totaled 19,358,476 hundredweight. Of this amount, 5,282,295 hundredweight went to livestock feed; 1,248,731 to Section 416; 2,064,352 to starch; 101,395 to flour; 47,058 to penal institutions; 4,199 to experimental use; 45,141 to storage; 96,200 to export; and 10,469,105 to re-sale.

Purchase of fresh apples through December 9 totaled 67,194 bushels at a cost of \$167,985.

Export subsidy programs through December 9 stood at:

Apples, 731,899 boxes; \$906,376
Pears, 353,256 boxes; \$441,570
Fresh oranges, 29,273 boxes; \$167,985
Fresh grapefruit, 44,215 boxes; \$44,215
Single strength orange juice, 42,065 cases No. 2's; \$44,168
Single strength grapefruit juice, 43,213 cases No. 2's; \$38,411
Single strength blended juice, 6,209 cases No. 2's; \$6,202
Grapefruit sections, 250 cases No. 2's; \$325
Concentrated orange juice, 600 gallons; \$870
Concentrated grapefruit juice, 18,000 gallons; \$20,700
Honey, 10,494,827 pounds; \$472,267

Fresh Products

E. E. Conklin, of the Washington staff, will visit Chicago Tuesday to attend the training school being held in Chicago for new inspectors.

GRAIN BRANCH

(*) With corn selling in a number of places at CCC resale price, officials expect a good deal of CCC corn will be sold this winter. Same situation applies to other grains selling above supports. CCC stocks of dry beans substantially reduced as market prices have been advancing sharply. Nation's food and feed grain stocks are large, but Branch officials say they are not much bigger than at outbreak of World War II when food and feed requirements were smaller than they are now.

(*) Large quantities of milo reported moving into northern Colorado, for cattle feeding. This may help ease pressure on corn. One official returned from recent western trip reports big feed lots getting bigger, big lots well filled (this official saw one lot that contains 20,000 steers), but fewer cattle in the small lots. Calves reported selling as high as 37 cents; farmers complaining of high prices.

(*) Official saw winter wheat nearly six inches high in Northwest, but crop in Panhandle reported not doing so well. Dryness has stopped pasturing of winter wheat in some areas.

(*) Not for public information

* * * *

Influenced by smaller marketings and a more active inquiry, grain prices continued to move upward last week. Corn gained 1 to 2¢ per bushel, while oats, barley and grain sorghums reached new highs for the season. Flaxseed was up 15¢ per bushel.

LIVESTOCK BRANCH

Declines of 50¢ to \$1.00 and more were common on the major slaughter classes of cattle last week. However, high-choice to prime 1050 to 1300 steers closed steady to \$1.00 higher at Chicago, where the top reached \$38.25. Similar grades of mixed yearlings reached \$37.00, while the peak on heifers only was \$35.00.

Twelve market receipts of 523,000 hogs were the second largest of the season, but prices closed irregular with a week earlier. The general trend was steady to 25¢ lower, but a few points were steady to 50¢ higher for the week. The top reached \$19.00, paid in the eastern cornbelt. Peaks were from \$18.25 to \$18.60 in the late trade at most terminals.

Larger farm shipments of sheep and lambs closed steady to 50¢ higher and lower than a week earlier. Week's top was \$32.00, with most late sales \$31.00 downward.

POULTRY BRANCH

(*) Representatives of the broiler industry of the Delmarva area are expected to call upon Poultry Branch officials for government aid in disposing of heavy supplies of broilers and fryers which are now ready for market in that area. Prices to producers are at or near cost of production levels when offers are available and are working below the average of about 23 cents a pound, liveweight, which has prevailed for the past six weeks.

(*) Not for public information

(continued)

POULTRY BRANCH (Continued)

(*) While Poultry Branch officials will consider the problem, indications are that little can be done to aid in the present situation because of the fact that large numbers of these birds are now ready for market and a substantial portion of the all-time record turkey crop still remains to be disposed of during the holiday season. Broiler prices in the same area about this time last year dropped as low as 18 cents a pound, liveweight. In view of higher feed costs this year the present range of 20-22 cents is about comparable.

(*) The situation in the Delmarva area and in most all other major broiler producing areas reflects the fact that broiler growers have been expanding and that extremely large numbers of baby chicks are being placed in these areas.

(*) Not for public information

Commercial broiler production has quadrupled since 1940 and is still on the upward trend with indications that over-all production of broilers in 1951 may substantially exceed 1950 production.

Baby chick placements in all major areas for the week ending December 9 amounted to 7,759,000 head, which compares with 6,077,000 head for the same week a year ago. Ready for market in the Delmarva area last week were more than 3,440,000 broilers and fryers as compared with 2,757,000 for the same week last year, when producers also were in trouble.

No price support purchases of dried eggs were made this week for the second week in a row. Cancellations amounted to 78,720 pounds, leaving the total buy for the year so far at 82,445,238 pounds.

Export sales continued fairly large at 88,495 pounds at about 28 cents f.o.b. the warehouse and 30 cents f.a.s. New York. Total sales under this program now stand at 6,651,716 pounds.

* * *

Chicago live poultry prices were 1 to 1-1/2 cents higher on hens, 2¢ higher on roasters and 1 to 2¢ lower on fryers last week. Week tops were 29¢ per pound on heavy hens, light hens 24¢, roasters 32¢ and commercial fryers 26¢.

Chicago wholesale egg prices declined sharply after rising to the highest levels in 30 years the preceding week. Closing prices of top grade, large white eggs were 58-60-1/2 cents.

* * *

Researchers who have been working under direction of Robert L. Lacy, agricultural economist, at 623 South Wabash Avenue since June compiling data on the movement of poultry through the Chicago terminal market have completed their work. Mr. Lacy, who is headquartering at Champaign, Illinois, where the University of Illinois is cooperating in this RMA project, will continue the work at that place.

First publication on the project, a report on the analysis of poultry receipts on the Chicago market, is to be published about the first of the year.

The Chicago project is paralleled by a study of the New York market.

SUGAR BRANCH

Public hearings on wage rates for sugar beet workers and prices for the best crop will be held in Detroit on January 3, and St. Paul on January 5. Detroit meeting, Veterans Memorial Building; St. Paul, Post Office building.

TRANSPORTATION AND WAREHOUSING BRANCH

Public cooler space was 71 per cent occupied, and freezer space 77 per cent occupied on November 30. Occupancy dropped 1 point in both types of space during month. Total stocks of food amounted to 5.2 billion pounds, with 3.2 billion in coolers and 2 billion in freezers. Apple stocks in storage, 39 million bushels, were record high for the date. Removal of 49 million pounds of butter was a near-record, exceeded only in 1945.

ON THE CALENDAR

Tuesday, December 19	E. St. Louis, Illinois Vegetable Growers Assoc.
Wednesday, December 20	Marketing quota referendum, cigar filler & binder
Monday, December 25	CHRISTMAS DAY - HOLIDAY
Wednesday, December 27-29	W. Lafayette, Ind. - Purdue Agricultural Conference
Wednesday, December 27	Cleveland - Hearing on change in milk prices
Friday, December 29	New beef grades become effective

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